

March 18, 2021

Oregon House Education Committee  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 2412, -2 Amendments

Chair Alonso Leon and Members of the House Education Committee,

I'm writing today to urge your support and adoption of the -2 amendments to HB 2412. This amendment includes funding for five different college access programs that were funded in the Governors Recommend Budget. These five programs provide valuable access and supports for low-income and historically underserved students and help them to achieve their post-secondary goals.

One such program, the AVID College Readiness System, has been instrumental in Salem-Keizer School District's work in closing the opportunity gap for our students. Because of our AVID systems, we have seen significant increases in the following:

- Attendance rates
- Graduation rates
- Scholarships awarded
- SAT, ACT, AP & IB participation
- Sense of Belonging in our AVID Scholars

I have personally seen the impact on hundreds of students' lives and secondhand on tens of thousands of students who have shared that the skills, the family, and the opportunities they develop through being part of an AVID class is lifechanging. A number of our newest and strongest bilingual teachers in Salem-Keizer are proud AVID alumni.

Thank you for supporting this opportunity allowing all Oregon students to have the funding to know about and be prepared for careers that require post-secondary educational opportunities.

With Appreciation,

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