



**Global Diversity & Inclusion**

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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 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 included in the Governor's Recommend Budget. These programs provide valuable access and success supports for low-income, BIPOC and historically underserved students to help them achieve their post-secondary goals and fulfil their potential.

The success of PSU's BUILD EXITO Program is a testament to the capacity of students from underserved and underrepresented communities and how successful they can be with the right support infrastructure. The mentoring students receive and the research experiences the students get in the program help them develop critical skills and self-efficacy and supports their success in all of their endeavors and creates a pathway to graduate education.

I believe that with the devastating impact COVID 19 has had on low income, BIPOC and underserved communities, programs like BUILD EXITO are more critical than ever to the success of the students we need to lead a future that is thriving, just and equitable. I hope you will support the continued success of this incredible program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Ame Lambert*

Ame Lambert, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Global Diversity & Inclusion  
Portland State University