

I am writing to call on you to pass HB 3007/SB 551, the Part-Time Faculty Health Care bill.

Higher Ed increasingly relies on part time labor to teach our students. These faculty are highly skilled professionals teaching the next generation of leaders not only in Oregon but around the world, but they struggle to survive due to the poor working conditions provided by their employers.

These faculty split their time between teaching multiple institutions to scrape together enough work to make ends meet. These were some of our hardest working educators before the pandemic, and the recent crisis has only highlighted the necessity of quality healthcare benefits for all eligible faculty.

This bill will not only improve the quality of life for our hard working faculty members but also uplift the learning conditions of our students. When faculty receive the resources we need to do our work, our institutions and communities thrive.

To this end, the Oregon legislature should Invest at least \$900 million into the Public University Support Fund (PUSF) in order to ensure that institutions are well-funded and faculty are well-compensated without pushing those costs onto our students through tuition increases.

Thank you for your time, and please help Oregon's institutions of higher learning by funding them well and supporting their workers. The work we do in the university benefits our communities, state, nation and the world.