

April 23rd. 2021

Ways and Means
900 State Street NE, Room H-178,
Salem OR 97301



RE SB 5505

Chairs Girod, Holvey and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for your ongoing support of higher education in Oregon. Your recognition of the vital roles our public universities play has resulted in needed investment that has given students the opportunity to succeed. I am writing today on behalf of OSU alumni and supporters across the state to request your support for two capital construction projects before your committee, each necessary for OSU to fulfill its mission to serve students and communities across the state.

The first is \$13.8M in bond funding for a new Student Success Center at OSU-Cascades in Bend. This investment will be matched by \$5M that OSU-Cascades students have committed to raise through student fees. Enrollment at OSU-Cascades continues to increase, serving a large population of students in central Oregon for whom a four-year degree would be otherwise out of reach. This Center will house student support services including academic and career counseling to help students graduate on time and advance in their chosen careers. It will include a dedicated space for veterans' support services, helping the many OSU-Cascades students who served their country thrive in the next phase of their life. This project addresses the lack of available student space that HECC had identified as a needed area for growth at OSU-Cascades.

OSU is also requesting \$86M in bonding to complete the renovation and rejuvenation of Cordley Hall, a large science teaching and laboratory building on the Corvallis campus. Sixty percent of Corvallis campus undergraduates participate in courses at Cordley, which has never been comprehensively renovated since it was built 70 years ago. Completing this restoration will eliminate \$80M in deferred maintenance costs and result in a world class facility to support the innovative and groundbreaking research being conducted by OSU faculty. The HECC has identified this project as the one of the highest priorities among university construction projects submitted for review.

Thank you for your ongoing support of OSU, its students and research mission. I am happy to answer any questions or provide additional information about these projects.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Perry', is written in a cursive style.

Bill Perry
President, The Beaver Caucus