

Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Thomsen, and members of the committee,

My name is Emily Wanous, and I am the Legislative Director of the Oregon Student Association. I'm writing today to ask you to vote yes on SB 702.

Oregon Student Association works to empower students in postsecondary institutions in Oregon. One way we engage our members is through registering students to vote and encouraging them to engage in the political process.

Through this work, we see time and time again the importance of civic education, and the positive impacts of youth civic engagement on young people in Oregon.

The lack of knowledge about our political process is a barrier to participation. There are information gaps around how and why to take part in our democracy that we encounter even in our members who are college students. This bill would help prepare young people to take part in the democratic process. That's why we urge a yes vote; because with SB 702, Oregon has an opportunity to foster better youth engagement in our democratic process, making a healthier democratic system for all Oregonians.

Please votes yes on this bill, and thank you for your consideration.

Thank you,

Emily Wanous
Legislative Director, Oregon Student Association
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