

Chair Alonso Leon and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Alex Hadi. I am a student at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario. I am writing to request your support for **HB2835**.

Having a Benefits Navigator on my campus is important to me because ...

The STEP program has provided a lot of support for me and my family. Without this support I would not be able to complete my degree. While I have been a college student, I have needed additional sources of funding to meet the financial and food needs of my family. It can be very stressful to do the best I can in classes, work at the school in a work-study program, and hope to meet the expenses of my housing. However, now I will be able to get a good job and take care of my own family and our needs. I have needed someone at my school who can help me find these resources that have been so helpful and necessary to me.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Alex Hadi, Ontario, OR

Here is my video testimony:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14189JYw9OXHt5iMqRDIORNY3t5oJZq11/view?usp=sharing>

Reference: STEP is a benefit program, this is Oregon's SNAP Employment and Training Program. The program is part of our collective Pathways to Opportunity program. STEP is only available to a small number of students. Having a benefit navigator means all students like Susan get connected to STEP and many other benefits.