

Higher education has been left off the priority table in this state for far too long, and one upshot is that it relies increasingly on non-tenure-track, adjunct, and graduate faculty to fulfill its mission. I was fortunate during my time as a graduate assistant to have access to insurance; many of my colleagues were not. As rewarding as this line of work is, it's a precarious one, and health insurance was one of the great, difficult uncertainties facing us even before the pandemic. We're in danger of a generational loss of institutional capacity in our public colleges and universities; while there is so much more that needs to be done, providing a degree of stability to faculty and educators is an important first step in the right direction. Please support this bill.