

Hello to the Education Committee,

My name is Dominique Chen and I am a Junior at Portland State University studying Film.

I am writing today to ask you to vote yes on HB 2524, which would create mandatory fee transparency at all public colleges.

This term I paid roughly around \$550, as well as class fees and anything that includes. I did not know how much I would be charged because each class costs differently, especially when you factor in other costs for those classes (i.e. textbooks and other class materials that class might call for).

I have a pretty good understanding of where our fees go, but that only came about when I became a member of the SFC. It was only after we started talking about the mandatory fees that we make recommendations to modify and other FFA's that are funded by mandatory fees that I was able to get a better, more nuanced thinking of what the fees are and why we pay them. In my opinion, this information is not easily accessible. We see this all the time at SFC when we get concerned emails from students confused about the fees and why tuition is so much.

I don't think the university is transparent enough. There have been some initiatives that were taken this term for students to become more aware of the money they pay to go to PSU, however students are still confused. They need to be more clear on how each fee is set, what those fee funds, and who's in charge of setting each fee at the very least. A step towards this goal would be sending more detailed emails about fee reduction and why the fee(s) have reduced.

HB 2542 is about transparency and accountability at our colleges, so that students can have the information they need to manage their finances better and succeed in school.

Thank you for your time. Please vote yes on this bill.

Sincerely,

Dominique