

Chair Bynum, Vice-Chair Morgan, Vice-Chair Nguyen, D., and Members of the Committee:

I write to express my strong support for HB 2611, which requires that dental and vision coverage be included in the health benefits available to part-time faculty members. This bill represents a critical step towards ensuring that part-time faculty have access to the comprehensive health coverage they need to support their well-being and ability to perform their work effectively.

In today's rapidly changing job market, many individuals are relying on part-time work to make ends meet, and it is essential that we ensure that they have access to quality, affordable health care. This bill takes a much-needed step in that direction by reducing the amount of time that part-time faculty must work to qualify for health benefits and by requiring institutions to include non-instructional work in the eligibility determination.

Furthermore, the requirement that public institutions of higher education notify potentially eligible part-time faculty members of their eligibility requirements and benefits details no later than 30 days before the application deadline will go a long way in ensuring that all part-time faculty are aware of the resources available to them and can take full advantage of them.

In short, HB 2611 is a common-sense measure that will make a real difference in the lives of part-time faculty and their families. I urge you to support its passage and to work towards a future where all workers have access to quality, affordable health care.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Devon Lawson-McCourt*

Vida, Oregon

