



Oregon Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

HB 2609

Please Support bill and Oregon EPPs working with TSPC to improve system for Oregonians

PLEASE STOP AUTHORITY FOR NEW CHARGES ON EDUCATION PREP PROGRAM CHARGES

- SB 129 (2021) gave TSPC the authority to establish fees to pay for program approvals for public and private Education Preparation Providers (EPPs).
- The proposed fees that the agency is intending to collect are both per institution (\$2,000 to \$20,000 for each institution) and per program (\$2,000 to \$6,000 for each institution).
- 50% of teaching licenses that go through TSPC are from EPPs outside of Oregon, yet these institutions would not have to pay these forthcoming fees.
- Oregon EPPs are nationally accredited (as required by the legislature) – TSPC does not do this work assuring quality programs:
 - Initial national accreditation is \$10,000+ dollars and many hours of time and resources
 - Yearly dues to national accreditors are \$2,900+
- Oregon EPPs are concerned that this agency action is the antithesis to stated goals of improving access, affordability, diversity, reducing barriers to entry, and growing the profession.
- Oregon EPPs have been actively and successfully involved in the Grow Your Own program and other initiatives to reduce barriers and provide new pathways while maintaining Oregon standards.
- Oregon EPPs are utilizing more resources to meet those shared goals and anticipate that additions of more fees will need to be passed to new students.
- With a charge per program, Oregon EPPs are disincentivized to develop more programs and alternatives pathways to continue reaching those goals.
- Proposed new program fees would only be charged to in-state EPPs. Out of state alternative pathways not only would be free of charges, but they do not have to meet accreditation standards or pay those costs.
- Oregon EPPs are being asked to do more and pay more and are at a disadvantage competing with out of state institutions.
- **Please protect Oregon Educator Preparation Programs.**