

Senate Bill 572 Testimony

Massoud Beardsley (PSU-Career and Community Studies graduate)

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Thank you all so much for all of your work that you do in the senate and for making this bill a priority! And thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to testify in front of you this afternoon!

This bill is important to the state of Oregon because it would give more college students a chance to have a good education and College wouldn't have been so easy for me without the support systems that the CCS program gave to me such as academic coaching, advising, employment coordinators, Peer navigation and help with employment opportunities for after I graduated!

Some of the barriers that I experienced were that my parents and I couldn't find any programs like the CCS program that were in our hometown of California or anywhere else which is why it was perfect when we found the CCS program! My Dad and I had many meetings with Sue about the CCS program and it sounded like it would be a perfect fit for me and it was. We had a nice visit before we moved up to Oregon!

The PSU\ CCS program offered me a chance to be successful in college with all of the support they gave me! They helped me win a community values award at Portland State University's Campus Recreation Center and they also helped me win employee of the month at the Rec Center. They also helped me join Portland State

University's Club Baseball team my freshman year and that wouldn't have been possible if my peer navigator Kinsey didn't push me to try out. And they also helped me find new jobs when I got to Santa Fe New Mexico. Now I'm very successful in life. I'm working at the Nye School for early Childhood Kids and I'm also a pizza cook at a restaurant that is Called Restoration Pizza and I'm going to start working at a baseball facility that is called Ignite Baseball soon! And it wouldn't have been possible for me to make friends with Ryan Heil of the Baseball Marketing division of Nike who gave my dad and I a tour of Nike Campus without the CCS program!

Please make this bill a priority and send it all the way to Congress because I would like for More college students to get the same opportunities that I did in college!

Thank you so much for taking some time out of your day to hear my testimony today and I hope that this will give more college students a wonderful chance at being successful in College!