

Submitter: Majalise Tolan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Higher Education

Measure: HB3120

Good afternoon, Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Ruiz and Vice-Chair McIntire and members of the committee. For the record my name is Majalise Tolan and I am Secondary Director for the Lincoln County School District. Thank you for allowing me to share with my experience and support of HB3120-2.

I am providing written testimony supporting HB3120-2, The Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting organizations that expand the scope and community reach of college access and success programs for the purpose of increasing college enrollment and post-secondary completion rates for Oregon's historically underrepresented. This bill also aligns with the recommendations of the Joint Task Force On Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (JTUSHE).

In the last biennium budget, HB 2412-2 invested \$5 Million to five College Access and Success organizations in the state. The intended purpose of those funds was to increase support services for Oregon's historically underrepresented students and expand the number of students served across the state.

As an AVID District Director, these funds have allowed me to open up professional learning opportunities to Lincoln County teachers that can take place here in Oregon, not causing them to travel out of state for high quality professional learning. Our district has been involved in AVID for over 10 years, but it is important that all Lincoln County teachers receive AVID professional learning and understand the writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading skills needed to be a learner today to prepare students for their career tomorrow. AVID provides a clear and consistent instructional framework to support all teachers K-12 and across contents to prepare their students for career and college. These funds increase the access and frequency of learning opportunities for Oregon educators. The more supported our schools and teachers are, the stronger our system and the better that is for Oregon students and employers.

Sincerely,
Majalise Tolan