

Submitter: Lisa Jo Frech
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB416

Thank you Chair Dembrow and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

My name is Lisa Jo Frech and I am an Adjunct Professor at Portland State University in the University Studies Department. I work full-time between 2 universities and have for several decades, yet the most I have earned in any given year is 30K, and of course no benefits. Because of this, I will have to work well past retirement age, even as I increasingly struggle with health issues.

The pay/credit ceiling also limits adjuncts from critical training opportunities offered by PSU. And then we get criticized in our evaluations for not knowing or not having a certain skill set that is offered in these trainings.

The pay is one issue, but there's another issue and that's blatant discrimination against adjuncts. Too many incidents to count and would fill pages of detailed situations and things said. And I'm white. So I can only imagine what it's like for an adjunct person of color, particularly at PSU.

This bill is an important step forward towards equity and equal treatment for all professors and instructors in Oregon. Thank you. I urge your support of SB 416.

Lisa Jo Frech, Adjunct Professor
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