



April 18, 2023

Re: SB 423A

Greetings House Chair Lively, Vice Chairs McIntire and Ruiz, and members of the committee.

My name is Claire Irvan, I reside in Portland, and I have been employed at OHSU for over 21 years. I am the Financial Coordinator for the Adult and Pediatric Bone Marrow Transplant and CAR-T program at Oregon Health & Science University. OHSU is the only facility in the state that provides bone marrow transplant and CAR-T to pediatric patients and it is the only facility in the state that has a robust CAR-T program for adults. My role is responsible for establishing global case rates for transplant, helping to secure single case agreements for CAR-T and ensuring that services have been authorized by the insurance companies for these million dollar (sometimes million plus) procedures.

I am here today to testify in support of SB 423A which will add three seats to OHSU's Board of Directors including a non faculty seat. OHSU has long been considered part of the beating heart of Oregon. With that, the OHSU community which includes staff are at the center of Oregon's workforce. We are a large non-homogenous group of individuals, many of whom have grown with OHSU over the past few decades. We have thoughts, we have ideas and we have perspective to lend to OHSU's highest leading body yet I ask: where is the representation?

It's important to understand, and worth noting, that numerous employees spend their entire career at OHSU. With unwavering dedication they serve OHSU's community (which spans beyond Oregon) day in and day out. During this time they gain valuable knowledge and understanding not only of the workings of the University but also what is actually happening on the ground with fellow employees. Again I ask, when it comes to the board: where is the representation?

In 2022, OHSU announced its 30-30-30 plan to help the state address the current health care workforce shortage and health care inequities that were magnified by COVID-19 and its inordinate impact on underserved communities.. Oregon HB 5202 includes a \$45 million prioritized investment towards this plan. Undoubtedly, the 30-30-30 plan will impact all OHSU workers. But I ask: when this plan was being developed where was the representation?

It is common practice for public universities who receive state funds to have built-in representation of key campus stakeholders. Including a seat for non faculty staff would begin to mitigate the disconnect that currently exists between OHSU Board of Directors and OHSU's workforce. It would create a space for representation.



Everyday taxpayers deserve to have their voices heard. Everyday taxpayers are the body of the OHSU community. Everyday taxpayers have the right for equal representation. My name is Claire Irvan. I am a proud OHSU employee. I work for patients who are waging a war against cancer. I thank you for your time and consideration and I urge you to vote YES on SB 423A.