

Submitter: Micah Forbus

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Education

Measure: HB5025

We strongly urge the Ways and Means Committee to support the Higher Education Coordinating Commission Office of Workforce Investments Policy Option Package 301 request which includes \$10 million for the Oregon Conservation Corps and \$2 million dedicated to Tribal Youth Corps funding.

As an alum of Americorps/Northwest Youth Corps, I have had the opportunity to see first hand the impact this program has on the communities we work in. Many people are overwhelmed by the amount of work that goes into making a home defensible, and would put off or ignore that work because of the burden. By funding this program, we are able to directly help these people by hardening their homes and offering them guidance in maintaining it after we leave.

Every \$1 put into disaster mitigation saves \$6 during disaster response and recovery.