

TO: Oregon House of Representatives

FROM: Sheri hayes

Current: AND. Nursing Student, Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC)

Date: April 24, 2023

RE: Support for SB 523

Dear Oregon House of Representatives Members,

As a current nursing student at Oregon Coast community college let me provide to you why having the opportunity to complete my BSN at Oregon Coast Community College, I am in support of SB 523 and how it will impact my ability to complete my degree and positively impact the coastal communities of Oregon.

The ability to complete my BSN here in my community would relieve the vast financial burden of having to uproot my family and move them to another area to further my education. If the BSN were offered here through OCCC these dollars would be kept in the community benefiting many layers of community businesses with the monies being spent locally continuing to build our rural infrastructure. The ability to continue to stay in my home community and raise my children in an area that provides the values I value instead of transferring to another location is invaluable to me.

I would be able to continue to provide advanced care to our local residents and expand on my education as well as provide an advanced level of care to our wonderful community all while staying in our local community while doing so.

Bill SB 523 will not only benefit those of us currently enrolled in the ADN program but will be a draw for future students to the area that may not have otherwise chosen this program. Thus, bringing even more revenue to a depressed area.

Please help us retain our qualified nursing staff and draw in more qualified staff and instructors to our area by passing SB 523.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sheri Hayes