



February 12, 2024

Chair Meek, Vice Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee,

My name is Liz Marquez, I am the Policy Manager at PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union. At PCUN, we work to empower farmworkers and working Latinx families to improve their working conditions through community building, organizing, and policy advocacy.

On behalf of our members, I am here to testify in opposition to SB 1542 which would impact the investments in education for students, students of color, and students that have historically been underserved.

In 2019, our members supported the Student Success Act because they have seen the results that focused investments in education can make in the lives of students. The investments from the Corporate Activity Tax is essential for our education system where amongst other provisions targets dollars to the lowest-income students and schools, and specific programs such as the Latino Student Success Plan and Early Learning Equity Fund.

Our concern is that SB 1542 would lift the minimum taxable amount from \$1 million to \$5 million which would significantly reduce the investment the state already committed to.

The Student Success Act was a major step forward towards a more equitable tax and budget structure that asks corporations to pay more of their fair share and helps our students. After years of disinvestment in our schools this would move us backwards as a state that committed to fund education and support services for historically underserved students. We should be investing in our public education system not defunding it. PCUN urges you to oppose SB 1542.

Thank you,

Liz Marquez Gutierrez
Policy Manager
PCUN