

Submitter: Shyann Ah Nee

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

Destination Western has been a life changing program to WOU students- including myself. I have only been in the program as a Peer Advisor, but I have seen first hand how much support, confidence, and a sense of belonging that is instilled into the participating students. I am from Hawaii, and had the pleasure of working with other students from the Islands. It is particularly difficult for islanders to establish friendships in the Mainland. Destination Western made it possible for these students to create lifelong friendships that they wouldn't have made otherwise. The program brings people together and truly affects retention rates at WOU. I have learned skills in this program that I will use in my professional career. The friendships and connections I have made myself as a peer advisor are plentiful. I truly support this program and hope it will continue to serve WOU students for years to come.