

Submitter: Kaitlin Villarreal

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

In 2019 I was accepted to participate in Destination Western at Western Oregon University ultimately possible because of the Strong Start Grant. Through my experiences in K-12 and out of all the hurdles I had overcome to obtain access to higher education this was a program that was created and established some equity in my large scheme of growth. I gained knowledge about college topics, connections with in the community, and developed understanding of how to navigate as an independent individual. I am a larger contributor to my community and I believe this is only possible with grants like these that target to support real life areas where fairness in opportunities are needed.