

Submitter: Shondra Russell
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB604

Oregon has seen a significant decline in college enrollment, particularly among first-generation and low-income students. The Strong Start Program leverages evidence-based practices to create opportunities that benefit students, their families, and higher education institutions alike. By supporting this program, we can drive higher enrollment, improve retention and graduation rates, and ultimately strengthen Oregon's workforce. This bill is not just an investment in individual students—it's an investment in Oregon's future. The positive impact of SB 604 will extend beyond those it directly funds, benefiting communities and the state as a whole. As an Oregon resident, I fully support SB 604 and urge its passage.