



American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom for a Free Society

February 20, 2025

House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development

Re: House Bill HB 3219 – Support

Chair Hudson, Vice-Chairs Fragala and Harbick, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the more than 6,300 members of the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining chapters at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology, and our faculty members in advocacy chapters across Oregon, we urge you to support HB 3219.

As our climate continues to change, our risk for catastrophic natural disasters will continue to grow. By securing dedicated funds to support the Oregon Hazards Lab at the University of Oregon, HB 3219 will ensure that our state is better equipped to identify and respond to the uncontrollable threats that endanger the lives of every Oregonian.

The Oregon Hazard Lab studies and monitors many of the most common natural hazards our state currently faces or may face in the future, including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, and floods. At this critical time when federal funding is in jeopardy and our state's risk of catastrophic natural hazards continues to grow, it is the responsibility of our legislature to fund the work of groups like the Oregon Hazard Lab to demonstrate a continued commitment to the safety of all Oregonians.

Please support HB 3219. Thank you for your consideration.

Victor Reyes
Executive Director, AAUP Oregon