

Testimony for HB3213

Good Morning—Chair Hudson, Vice Chair Frah-Gah-la, Vice Chair Harbick, and members of the House Higher Education Committee,

My name is Emalydia Flenory, and I'm currently a graduate student at the University of Oregon and a member of the GTFF, our graduate employee union. I'm here today to speak in support of HB 3213.

I'm here today as the former co-lead negotiator during GTFF's most recent contract negotiation, which wrapped up in January 2024. As I'm sure you're aware, the economic articles of a CBA are often one of the biggest sticking points during negotiations.

When we demanded wages that would allow our members to afford basic necessities while pursuing our degrees, we were told repeatedly that the university lacked the necessary funds to meet our needs. At the same time, however, we saw continued investments in costly building projects, and we knew university foundations were holding significant assets—assets that we had no clear insight into.

HB 3213 would help address this lack of transparency by requiring university foundations to disclose how their funds are being spent. Specifically, this bill would ensure that yearly financial reporting includes details on what percentage of foundation expenditures go toward:

- Student scholarships and financial aid
- Faculty compensation
- University program costs
- Equipment and technology
- Administrative support

This level of transparency is crucial. Without it, students, faculty, and workers are left in the dark about how university foundations prioritize their spending. Accountability and transparency *matter* and are key factors in building trust. Our members and the broader public deserve and have a right to know how their money is being spent.

Thank you for your time, and I hope that I can count on your support of HB 3213 with the dash-One amendment.

-Emalydia Flenory (she/her)