



February 27, 2025

Re: Please vote yes on HB 3182, HB 3183, the Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act

Dear Chair Hudson, Vice Chair Fragala, Vice Chair Harbick, and Members of the House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development,

I am writing on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to urge you to vote yes on HB 3182 and HB 3183, the Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act. COIN is made up of Indivisible groups from across Oregon. Our members collaborate to protect democracy. Education is an important cornerstone of our democracy, and helping our students to thrive, to get the best education possible and prepare them for a changing workforce, should be the priority of every legislator.

We endorse the work that has been done under HB 2835, the Benefits Navigator bill, that has tried to meet the needs of Oregon students with basic resources like food and housing. You have strong evidence that the success of our students depends on meeting basic needs like food, housing, textbooks, and other supplies. We urge you to fill in the gaps for our students who are struggling (talk to any educator or staff in higher education), and in many cases they are overwhelmed by food insecurity, lack of housing, and a need for basic tools to participate in classes. It should be our goal to ensure every student has the opportunity to thrive and complete their education and skills training goals. To this end, COIN urges you to vote yes on the Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act package, HB 3182, HB 3183.

Laura Allen, on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network - COIN