

Good morning, Chair Hudson, Vice Chairs Fragala and Harbick, and members of the committee,

My name is Victor Tellez G, and I am a student at Mount Hood Community College. I am a member of the Oregon Community table on Postsecondary Education and Training, Oregon's first statewide advocacy group dedicated to transforming our postsecondary education system through policy change.

I'm writing in support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act, which will make important investments in student basic needs initiatives, affordable student housing initiatives, and textbook affordability.

During my time in college, I have heard and seen many of my classmates struggle to find affordable housing and textbooks. Since those two are very important they will rent housing and purchase textbooks.

But as a result, they are left with not enough money to afford other basic necessities like food and transportation. Which impacts their ability to perform in the classroom. Which is why those basic needs must be met. By having people performing well in classes, they can be educated so that they may participate in the workforce to continue meeting their basic needs.

Thank you for your time, and I hope that I can count on your support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act. Students cannot wait any longer!