

Submitter:	Taliah Johnson
On Behalf Of:	UO Student Workers
Committee:	Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB5006

My name is Taliah I am a psychology and sociology double major and I work as a Resident Assistant in Global Scholars Hall. In my job I do on-call shifts where I check if the building is secure and I am required to be a supportive person for my residents with any issues that they might have. As a RA I am provided with room and board, a meal plan, and a small stipend of 1362 dollars. RAs tend to come from lower income levels, first-generation students, or are otherwise in need of affordable housing. RAs also tend to have second jobs to support themselves because the stipend is so low. Rather than the University listening to what RAs need which is more mental health support and a higher stipend the university wants to split the RA role and have community builder RAs pay for 75% of their housing and policy enforcers pay for 50% of their housing. If I was to work under the RA role split I would have to take on more debt in order to be able to get through college. UO has continuously ignored RAs, our fair contract would make it so RAs can better support the residents and get RAs through college. The ways and means committee should push UO to use its tax dollars responsibly by treating its workers fairly.