

Submitter: Victoria Robison
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Hello, my name is Victoria Robison, I live in Eugene, and I am a student worker at the Knight Library at the University of Oregon. I'm in my third year studying religion and comparative literature. At the Knight Library, I shelve books, check out books and learning materials to students and faculty, and make sure the facilities are accessible. The work I do at the library makes sure that fellow students are able to get materials—such as technology, books, and tutoring—which make our education accessible. I am paid \$15.75, which is substantially lower than what I was making at my previous jobs that were just as physically demanding. A contract that includes higher wages, would change my life. Higher wages would insure my coworkers and I would be able to live without great financial stress. It is greatly disturbing to me that many of my coworkers are on food stamps at the same time that university administrators refuse to admit that we need more pay. UO says it cares about its students, but this doesn't seem to extend to student workers. While UO admin say they cannot pay us any more money, they regularly give raises to administrators as student workers struggle to get their needs met. UO is using state funds to pay admin while students are unable to make rent. Today, we ask you to urge UO to pay us more for the work we do that makes this university run and to prevent my coworkers and I from going on strike.