

Submitter: Taryn Oakley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5525

I am writing today to ask you to increase funding for the Community College Support Fund. This fund is the primary funding mechanism for all 17 of the community colleges in our state. We need our community college to stay affordable for EVERYONE so that EVERYONE has a chance at education. As a faculty member at Portland Community College, I have seen how access to education can change someone's life for the better. Without expanded funding for our community colleges, we will make it harder for many individuals to have a chance at reaching their dreams.

- \* Community colleges are the most affordable entry point to careers and secondary education.

- \* Our communities colleges are open to everyone, no matter their prior education.

- \* Our community colleges serve a diverse set of students. Underfunding our program is reducing opportunities for our most historically marginalized community members.

- \* Community colleges prepare our community members to work in our community, driving our local workforce.

Community colleges are part of the pathway for successful communities. Please support an increase in funding for the Community College Support Fund. Thank you for your time.

Taryn Oakley