



February 4, 2016

Oregon's Public Universities Support SB 1586 as Amended

Oregon's seven public universities support Senate Bill 1586 with the -1 amendment, currently being drafted by Legislative Counsel. We value providing regular, nonpartisan opportunities for students to register to vote and participate in the electoral process.

Universities are grateful Senator Devlin provided universities with the opportunity to offer suggestions for simplifying and clarifying provisions in this bill. The forthcoming -1 amendment eases implementation mechanisms and will more efficiently aid the organization and outreach efforts to register students to vote, whether they choose to do so on our campuses or in their hometowns. While each of Oregon's public universities currently have programs and procedures in place to facilitate nonpartisan voter registration and education, this bill provides clarity for students and administrators regarding the process and opportunities for engaging students in elections.

As fostered by SB 1586 (-1), we look forward to actively working with student government, residence life programs, and student affairs staff to provide opportunities for civic participation while protecting the educational environment and the privacy of our students.

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