

March 22, 2017

House Judiciary Committee
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Barker, Vice-Chairs Olson and Williamson, and Members of the Committee:

The Title IX Coordinators of the Oregon public universities would like to provide comments to the proposed House Bill 2972. We are deeply committed to preventing sexual misconduct and sexual assault as well as providing support to survivors.

Each university is making extensive efforts to provide comprehensive prevention programming on our campuses and to support students who experience sexual misconduct in a victim-centered manner, while also providing equitable and neutral investigations. Since the passage of HB 3476, Advocate Privilege, the universities are providing survivors with confidential resources. By speaking with a confidential advocate, survivors may disclose what occurred confidentially and the advocate will assist survivors in making an informed decision on whether to report as well as assist in receiving accommodations in academics and on-campus housing. We are committed to providing survivors with the appropriate support to be able to continue to access their education.

No public university in Oregon would sanction or threaten to sanction a student who is a victim of sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic or dating violence or any other form of interpersonal violence for failing to report or for not participating in an investigation. It would be a violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Title IX) to threaten or sanction survivors. If survivors request confidentiality or request that the survivors' names not to be disclosed, Title IX requires universities to honor the survivors' requests to the best of their ability. (See, [Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence](#), section E pages 18-20). Based on the universities' commitment to support survivors and Title IX, the public universities currently would not take any actions that would be in violation of the proposed HB 2972.

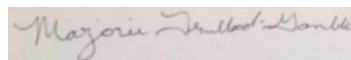
If you need further information or would like to discuss further, please contact Dana Richardson at the Oregon Council of Presidents, (503) 838-9295.

Sincerely,

Title IX Coordinators
Oregon's Public Universities



Colleen Dunne-Cascio
Title IX Coordinator, Director of Student Relations
Eastern Oregon University



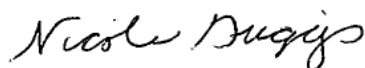
Marjorie Trueblood-Gamble
Director of Diversity and Inclusion
Title IX Coordinator
Southern Oregon University



Kim Kirkland
Executive Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and
Access
Title IX Coordinator
Oregon State University



Darci Heroy
Associate Vice President
Title IX Coordinator
University of Oregon



Nicole Briggs
Title IX & Women's Resource Center Coordinator
Oregon Institute of Technology



Judy Vanderburg
Director of Human Resources
Title IX Coordinator
Western Oregon University



Julie Caron
Associate Vice President, Global Diversity &
Inclusion
Title IX Coordinator
Portland State University