



Jan. 26, 2023

**TO:** Members of the Senate Committee on Education

**FR:** Katie Koenig, Oregon Business & Industry

**RE:** Oregon Business and Industry's support of SB 424

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Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee,

Oregon Business & Industry (OBI) is a statewide association representing businesses from a wide variety of industries and from each of Oregon's 36 counties. Our 1,600 member companies, more than 80% of which are small businesses, employ more than 250,000 Oregonians. Oregon's private sector businesses help drive a healthy, prosperous economy for the benefit of everyone.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support SB 424. OBI is supportive of this effort to eliminate barriers to accessing transcripts.

We recognize there have been instances when current and former students of post-secondary institutions have been unable to access transcripts because of financial obligations owed to the institution, resulting in missed educational or employment opportunities. Students and former students should not be precluded from the possibility of educational or employment advancement, which may help someone pay off outstanding obligations, due to lack of access to a transcript.

While we appreciate the need of post-secondary institutions to take fiscally responsible measures, including efforts to realize outstanding financial obligations, this is not the means.

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