



COLLEGE HOUSING  
NORTHWEST



OpenOregon  
Educational Resources



basic  
needs  
Oregon



# Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act

No student should go hungry, houseless, or be priced out of their education.



## Oral Testimony Preparation

Thank you for your support of the **Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act (HB 3182 and HB 3183)** during Oregon's 2025 Legislative Session!

The first public hearing for the Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act will be on **Thursday, February 27th, 2025** during the **House Higher Education Committee** meeting. The meeting will take place from **8:00 AM - 9:30 AM** in **Hearing Room C**, so your time to testify will be within that period. Each person will have about 2-3 minutes total to testify, as time permits. Please read below for more details of how you can prepare your testimony.

### Ways to testify:

- In-person (Oregon State Capitol – Hearing Room C)
- Remote (Microsoft Teams)

### Writing your testimony:

- The talking points and sample testimony in this toolkit are a starting point for you to draft **your own unique testimony!**
- If you want someone to review your testimony before you testify or would like help drafting, email Alex Aghdai at [alex@oregonhunger.org](mailto:alex@oregonhunger.org)
- **Note that your testimony will be publicly available**, including your name and any other identifying information you include. DO NOT include any personal information that you do not want made available to the public, such as your address, phone number, or health history.


### How to register for in-person and remote testimony:


Please notify Alex from Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon to get registered.

[alex@oregonhunger.org](mailto:alex@oregonhunger.org)

---

## Key Details and Talking Points for Bill:

 Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act One Pager.pdf

 Talking Points: Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act

## Testimony Template:

---

Chair Huson, Vice Chair Fragala and Harbick, and members of the committee,

My name is [YOUR NAME], and I am a [STUDENT/FACULTY/STAFF] at [INSTITUTION/ORGANIZATION]. I am here today to speak in support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act, which will make important investments in student basic needs initiatives, affordable student housing initiatives, and textbook affordability.

[TELL YOUR PERSONAL STORY HERE]

[WHY DO YOU CARE ABOUT STUDENT BASIC NEEDS, AFFORDABLE TEXTBOOKS, and AFFORDABLE HOUSING?]

Thank you for your time, and I hope that I can count on your support of HB 3182 and HB 3183: The Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act. Students cannot wait any longer!

---

## Have an extra minute? Send your testimony to your own legislator!

If you have extra time, we strongly encourage you to send your testimony directly to your local legislators in addition to submitting it to the committee. Personalized outreach can make a big impact, as legislators are more likely to pay attention to issues when they hear directly from their constituents. You can find your legislators and their contact information with this [legislator lookup tool](#), and we recommend emailing them a short note explaining why this bill matters to you, along with your written testimony.

## Testimony tips:

### Telling Your Personal Story

For a story to truly move someone to action, we want it to be **powerful, engaging, and resonant**. It's important to use specifics and examples. Details help paint the picture, as legislators often do not have the same experience as us.

### **STUDENTS:**

In writing your testimony think about questions like:

- What's your background story?
- Why did you come to college?
- What barriers do you face? What's an example? How does that feel?
- What are your academic and career goals? How is higher education supporting that?
- What is your desired future and what do you need to get there?
- How are basic needs insecurities a barrier for students?
- How does food insecurity, housing insecurity, and lack of adequate access to healthcare, childcare, and transportation impact students?
- How are textbook costs a barrier for students?
- Why is funding higher education important?
- Have you received support from any of these programs? How did that impact you?

### **BENEFITS NAVIGATORS / LIBRARIANS / EDUCATORS:**

In writing your testimony think about questions like:

- How do basic needs / affordability challenges impact my students directly?
  - What are some specific examples of students I've worked with who face basic needs insecurities (e.g., food, housing, transportation, childcare)?
  - How have these challenges affected their academic success, graduation rates, mental health, and overall well-being?
  - Can I share a success story where students were able to overcome barriers with the help of basic needs support?
- What is my role in supporting students, and what resources do I provide?
  - What barriers have I observed that prevent students from accessing these resources?
  - Have I witnessed or experienced gaps in resources or support programs for students?
- Why is investing in student basic needs a critical investment in Oregon's future?
  - What are the benefits of addressing student needs—not only for individual students but for Oregon's education system and workforce in the long term?
- What are the most pressing needs that the Student Basic Needs and Workforce Stabilization Act would address?
  - Which specific aspects of the bill do I see as most impactful for students I work with?
  - How would these provisions improve the support systems we already have in place?
- Why am I personally invested in supporting this bill?
  - How does this issue align with my values and professional mission?
  - What could be improved with additional investment or policy change?

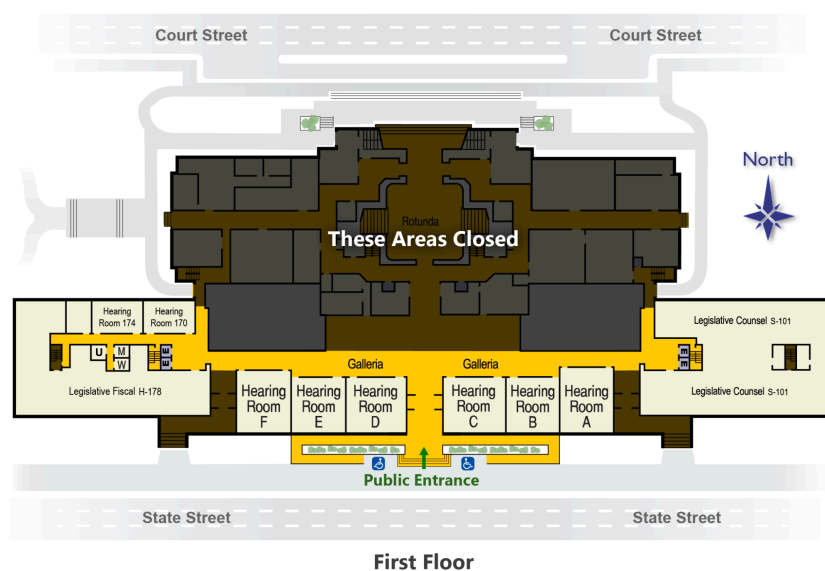
## Getting Ready for Remote Testimony

- Make sure your device is charged and ready
- Make sure your WI-FI is stable
- Make sure you have Microsoft Teams downloaded and updated
- Have your camera on and be in a well lit area
- Try to minimize external noises, so you can be heard loud and clear.

## Getting Ready for In-Person Testimony

- Sign up early. Print your script. Practice looking up to the committee occasionally.
- Submit written testimony. Your written testimony can make the points that you did not have time to make in your presentation. Submit them online through OLIS.
- Be brief. Choose only your key points.
- Dress for success. Wear something that makes you feel comfortable and confident!
- Testimony before state agencies and other groups is often recorded, so speak into the microphone provided.
- Don't be alarmed if people get up and move around during committee hearings; often people will come and go through the hearing. It doesn't mean your testimony isn't being heard.

## Entering the Oregon State Capitol



**Note:** The public entrance to the building has been shifted to State Street. The building is under active construction. There is no food in the building. Bring snacks and water if you need it. To find your committee room, ask for help or find a map.