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MEMORANDUM FOR: Higher Education Coordinating Commission

FROM: **Motutama Sipelii** **Victor Chavex**
President *Vice President*

SUBJECT: **SSCM: ASPSU Letter of Support**

Chair Rives and Members of the Commission,

On behalf of Portland State University students, I am writing in support of the proposed updates to the Student Success and Completion Model (SSCM). These updates recognize the HECC's commitment to equity, access, and affordability for Oregon students.

The proposed changes to the SSCM clearly highlight the Commission's commitment to helping to end historic racial disparities in higher education. By making changes to the base funding for Mission Differentiation and increasing funding for both transfer and underrepresented students, the Commission is reaching toward these goals.

These are essential changes to the SSCM and help reduce the funding gaps between the highest funded institutions and lowest funded. These proposed changes are a step in the right direction and improve outcomes for the thousands of Oregonians PSU serves. However, I would ask that the Commission keep in mind that Portland State will continue to receive the lowest funding per FTE while serving more transfer students, more students of color, and more low-income Oregonians than any other university in Oregon.

The Association Students of Portland State University (ASPSU) is committed to working with the HECC, the Legislature, and other partners to advocate for full funding for the universities. I'd also like to thank the HECC staff for their hard work and I look forward to the Commission adopting the proposed changes to the formula. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Motutama Sipelii
President

Victor Chavez-Gonzalez
Vice-President