



from the office of

SENATOR BILL HANSELL
PRESS RELEASE

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Hansell Recognized as Oregon's Top Community College Advocate

SALEM, Ore. – This week, Senator Bill Hansell (R-Athena) was given top honors from the Oregon Community College Association (OCCA) for his work to strengthen Oregon's local community colleges.

In the 2021 session, Senator Hansell fought for Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) to retain the management of educational programming and its associated funding in Oregon's state prisons. The program, which was slated to be absorbed by the Department of Corrections, helps give incarcerated individuals job training and education opportunities. Under the funding secured by Sen. Hansell, BMCC will continue this partnership with the local prisons and provide expertise to help reduce recidivism. He also advocated for critical investments into the Community College Support Fund.

"I am honored to have received this recognition from OCCA," said Senator Hansell. "Oregon's community colleges are vital to our communities, from career and technical education to support our local economies. I will always be a strong supporter of our community colleges, and I am thankful for the work that OCCA does to ensure legislators like me are aware of the challenges they face. Without them, we couldn't make the educated decisions we do."

View OCCA's announcement [here](#).

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