

Career & EDUCATION SPECIAL EDITION

Tuition Bill to help Young Latinos

Two major steps were taken last week to help integrate some of the thousands of immigrants living in Oregon.

Gov. John Kitzhaber signed into law a bill granting resident tuition at public universities for people who can't prove citizenship. On the same day, eight lawmakers introduced a bill that would make it possible for people living in the state without documentation to obtain driver's licenses valid for four years.

"It's a very good day for all Latinos," said Francisco Lopez, the executive director of CAUSA, an immigrant rights group.

About 12 percent of Oregon's population identifies as Hispanic or Latino, according to the United States Census Bureau. That's about 450,000 people, making it the state's largest minority group.

Kitzhaber was flanked by Latino advocates and other supporters of the resident tuition law as he signed it in his office.

"Each and every Oregonian deserves a shot at the American Dream," Kitzhaber said.

Oregon joins at least 14 other states that offer resident tuition to young immigrants who don't have U.S. citizenship. "This shows leadership to the na-

tion," said Jaime Limon-Guzman, an activist who has been living without documentation since age 12. "It's about the future generation of kids."

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Mt. Hood Hosts Career Fair

The Mt. Hood Community College Career Planning and Counseling Center is hosting the annual Career and Job Fair, on Tuesday, April 16 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Vista Dining center at 26000 S.E. Stark Street in Gresham.

The free event provides students and community members the opportunity to meet with employers who are hiring for career and part-time positions. Some of the employers scheduled to attend include FedEx Ground, New Season's Market, Microchip Technology, The Dannon Company, The Hertz Corporation, US Bank, and TriMet.

Besides having an opportunity to meet with employers, fair-goers may take a class in the "10 Resume Writing Mistakes You Don't Want to Make," presented by Dawn Rasmussen of Pathfinder Career Services. She will be available to sign copies of her book, "Forget Job Security: Build Your Marketability!"

For more information, visit mhcc.edu/jobfair or call Bhaktirose Dawdy, career and academic group advising coordinator, at 503-491-7526 or email at bhaktirose.dawdy@mhcc.edu.

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