

July 10, 2007

WASHINGTON, DC—U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-Oregon) announced today that the House Appropriations Committee approved legislation which included \$300,000 for equipment for the new Linn-Benton Community College Science Lab. The funding was included in the fiscal year 2008 spending bill for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education.

The bill includes \$300,000 to purchase new science lab equipment for Linn-Benton Community College. LBCC's science labs are 35 years old and have never been refurbished. They are in a constant state of use due to a steep increase in the number of health career and engineering preparation students.

LBCC delivers significant lower division science instruction for Oregon State University transfer students as part of their dual enrollment program, but the labs are not consistent with the quality of modern day collegiate science labs. This funding will be used to buy new laboratory equipment for their new 20,000 square foot science and health building and renovated existing science labs.

"I am pleased that that House Appropriations Committee recognized the importance of enhancing LBCC's ability to train the future health care providers and engineers our state and our country need," said DeFazio.

The LHHS-ED spending bill will be considered on the House floor next week.