

My name is Kami Hawley, and I am writing in support of SB 240 and raising the 3 percent enrollment cap on virtual schools. My oldest son was failing school. He didn't understand a lot of what was going on in class. My husband and I both work full time. I had heard that Oregon Charter Academy puts work out for students in advance. There were several things I had learned that they do, and it seemed like it would really benefit our family. My youngest son is in first grade. I was keeping him in public school. He was doing fine, and I did not want to change anything for him since he was doing so well. I felt like when I was denied removing my two older sons, they didn't care about my son who was struggling and failing school. They never reached out with offers for help. We appealed their decision, and the denial was upheld saying the school system was offering lots of help. That was untrue. In the end, my son failed his seventh-grade year and it's difficult to see how this will impact him in the future. I felt like the school system does not care about the child. They only care about losing the money they would get for him continuing school. I was, and am, very upset with my school district. This is where I grew up and was proud of where I came from. That has now changed because my children were unable to make the decision to do what we felt was right for us. I hope this legislature changes this rule.