



Oregon
SMALL SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

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February 15, 2013

Dear Honorable Members of the Oregon Legislature,

The Oregon Small Schools Association supports **SB2501** and urges your passage of the bill. However, we respectfully offer this suggestion:

Within the bill the repeal of ORS 327.355, 327.357, and 327.360 is postponed until June 30, 2014. We suggest that this repeal date be extended to at least June 30, 2019, and the legislature double the amount appropriated for distribution.

The above statutes refer to what is commonly called the **Small High School Grant**. As the name implies this grant allows small high schools throughout the state to offer a variety of programs to their students that otherwise would not be available because of their small size.

In the current year, the total amount distributed in the Small High School Grant is approximately \$2.2 Million, or to put it in perspective less than .06% of the state school fund budget.

By extending the sunset of these statutes and increasing the funding available to small high schools around the state, you will make a real difference in the opportunities available to children in these schools, giving them the chance to have the same opportunities those students in more urban areas enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Lasher,
Executive Director, Oregon Small Schools Association