Dear Chairman Hass, Vice-Chair Knopp and Senator Beyer, Senator Kruse and Senator Roblan,

I am writing about HB 2747. I respectfully ask that your Committee oppose this bill.

My 4th grade daughter and 7th grade son attend a small public school district in Southwest Portland. As I understand it this bill will prohibit the school administration from seeking any information about an out of district student who wishes to attend the school other than their name, address and grade level.

This bill removes decision making authority from our locally elected school board and school administrators about what is best for the students who are transferring in or out from one district to another. That seems counterproductive given that is what we elected or hired them to do.

This bill will leave our small school district, which is wedged between the huge Portland Public and the larger Lake Oswego districts, scrambling to meet the needs of essentially unknown kids who join our school from outside the District. This bill will undoubtedly cause small school districts that are unable to readily absorb students with a wide variety of requirements to stop admitting out of District students altogether. This is bad for families seeking options other than their home District. We don't need fewer choices, we need more choices.

Our school needs and very actively seeks the diversity on all levels that our out of District students bring to our community, but those out of District families have had the benefit of a two-way conversation and gone through a process that ensures our school will meet their needs and requirements and that their students will be successful and thrive at our school.

I do not know whom this bill is designed to help or what problem it is designed to fix, but it certainly makes things costlier for us and interferes with our ability to deliver what is a unique small district alternative among the larger districts of the Portland metro area.

Please vote no on HB 2747.

Thank you for your service in the Oregon Senate and especially on the Education and Workforce Development Committee,

~lez

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