



West Linn-Wilsonville School District 3Jt

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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March 13, 2013

RE: Senate Bill 789 Hearing

Dear Task Force members:

I thank you for the opportunity to appear before you today to share information that affects the efficiency of our schools and our ability to deliver increasingly better education for our students as stipulated in our Governor's 40-40-20 Plan.

Previously submitted written testimony shows that the additional monthly "OEBC Membership" costs to the West Linn-Wilsonville School District and its employees would be over \$200,000 per month. **For a full plan year, the switch to OEBC would cost the district and its employees over \$2 million in additional premiums.**

If the West Linn-Wilsonville School District's premiums are currently that much lower than the going rates in the State's OEBC plan, it is hard for me to imagine a scenario where the comparison is going to suddenly show our costs have jumped up enough to be higher than OEBC plan rates.

In addition, it is becoming harder to compare "apples-to-apples" in health plans, because the OEBC plans continue to shift benefits and deductibles to less-rich plans as a means to help control their overall costs. Our plans have had very few changes over this same time period.

I support Senate Bill 789 because it allows districts that have a proven track record of significant savings and efficiencies to disengage from the onerous task of bi-annual health insurance program comparisons. It is time to allow the non-OEBC districts to continue to operate efficiently without wasting time and money on lengthy and costly program comparisons.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Middlestetter".

Doug Middlestetter, CPA,
Business Manager