



**Testimony of Lori Porter, before the Senate Health Care Committee
Regarding SB 336, SB 337, SB 338, SB 339
Funding and Establishing School-Based Health Centers**

February 23rd, 2015

My name is Lori Porter, Director of Parents' Rights in Education. We are a grassroots organization, intent on protecting and advocating for parents' rights to guide the education of their children. I have taught public school in Oregon for 23 plus years and I am here today speaking on behalf of many concerned Oregonians from around the state. It would be fiscally irresponsible to fund any new School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs). In addition, SBHCs threaten the legal rights, moral responsibilities, and privileges of parents and guardians.

Parents and guardians have the ultimate legal authority over not only the education, but the health care of their children. Sending children to public schools does not automatically relinquish parental rights. School-based health care makes government the interloper between the parent and child; too often promoting and providing confidential health services without parent's knowledge or consent. Attached is evidence of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) encouraging health-related services to minors without parental permission.

Where are Oregonians getting a return on their investment when it comes to SBHCs? Since the rise in number of SBHCs in Oregon, there has not been any evidence of improved academic performance among youth. It's a well-known fact that Oregon's graduation rates and academic achievement have declined. Where is the evidence that SBHCs improve student academic performance? These Senate Bills are requesting what looks to be over 2 million dollars of state taxpayer dollars for new SBHCs. Additionally, there is the expense incurred from the state-wide unscientific and privacy invasive "Health Teens Survey", which is used to justify the 'need' for new SBHCs. See attached examples.

SBHCs from across the state send youth to the recently exposed controversial Adolescent Sexuality Conference (ASC) held in Seaside each April. For example, unbeknownst to the St. Helens school district board members, their SBHC sent 9 students to the 2014 ASC a conference which put the mental and physical health of minors at risk by distributing materials and having workshops that promoted porn, sexting, BDSM, and other risky sexual behaviors. Attached is information about a St. Helens high school health fair put on by a SBHC youth team. This fair featured an organization (TransActive) which promotes puberty inhibitors to minors and shares how to dodge parental notification; an organization, where the executive director was a Keynote speaker at the 2013 ASC.

In Section 1 (8) of SB 339 it speaks of coordinating school nursing activities with public health, social services, environmental and educational agencies as well as other public and private entities. What specific 'entities' will be involved with, advertising to, or promoting/performing health care services to OUR children? School administrators, teachers, and school boards have enough to do with regards to providing a quality education to Oregon students. How will they be expected to find the time to monitor, evaluate, and inform parents about any and all private and public entities coming onto their school property?

Section 1 (3) of SB 339 states that the OHA will be "supporting and leading the integration of coordinated school health teams." Who will be included in this "coordinated school health team"? Where is the assurance that the rights of parents won't be usurped? Parents are the ultimate legal authority over the health care and education of their children. Government agencies and private agencies have no business trespassing on the hearts, minds, bodies, and souls of OUR children. The family is the premier social service agency.

It would be fiscally irresponsible to fund any new SBHCs. SBHCs threaten the legal rights, moral responsibilities, and privileges of Oregon parents and guardians.

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*Attachments