



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

To: House Energy and Environment Committee
From: Representative Rob Nosse
Re: HB 2762

Good Afternoon Chair Vega Pederson, Vice Chairs Reardon, Johnson, and Members of the Committee. For the record, I'm Rob Nosse, State Representative from House District 42, representing parts of Inner NE & SE Portland.

Thank you for taking the time today to hear about this good piece of policy, which takes one step toward ensuring the health of our students and the health of our environment.

The idea behind House Bill 2762 was brought to me by Michelle Strobel's students at Sunnyside Elementary School, who are here today with me. This interim committee heard testimony on this concept last spring; some of you may remember their lively presentation.

I'll let the students come up and present their reasons for bringing this concept forward. First, I'll quickly run through the main points of House Bill 2762:

- This bill requires all school districts in Oregon to eliminate the use of Styrofoam trays for food service by July 2021.
- It allows any school district demonstrating a financial hardship to submit an exemption from compliance to the Department of Education. The Department may exempt a school district from compliance pursuant to specific criteria.
- After conversations with stakeholders we drafted an amendment that would allow participation in a recycling program for the Styrofoam to satisfy the requirements. We also have been in ongoing conversation with state agencies, such as the Energy Trust of Oregon, and organizations, Oregon Green Schools for example, that will present you with information today about resources that they have to lend a hand to schools looking to make this transition to new alternatives.
- I also had my office submit the statements of support we've received as well as a letter of neutrality from the Oregon School Employees Association— Just to draw your attention to those for a moment.
- I urge the committee to consider adoption of the -1 amendment and the passage of this bill.

I'll ask the students to join me at the table, but before I do I want to take a moment to say thank you to the stakeholders that have been in and out of our office in continuous conversation: Matt Markee, David Williams, Morgan Allen, Jay Ward, Regan Gray, Alex Stamey, and Kate Newhall. You will hear from some of these folks today or representatives of their organizations, so I welcome any questions and I'm sure they will as well. Thank you for your time today.

Sincerely,

Representative Rob Nosse
House District 42

