Subject: In support of SB 819 and SB 820

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

I am writing to you as a resident in Oregon House District 45 and as am a parent whose child attends Emerson Charter School in District 17.

I urge you to support the bills 819 and 820 in support of Portland's Charter School program. My children have benefited immensely from Portland's Charter schools. I have seen first-hand how Emerson encourages positive discipline, project-based curriculum, and a multitude of outside guest speakers and field studies that both enhance and encourage my children's love of learning.

I support any bill that furthers cultural diversity in the charter school program, as well. I have observed how Emerson supports minority diversity and encourages acceptance of the community as a whole. I also love how supportive our school is of everyone, and how families from all over Portland are joined together in our mutual love and care of our children.

Please support SB 819 and SB 820, and urge your colleagues on the Senate Committee on Education to do so as well.

Sincerely, Camille Russell Parent at The Emerson School Portland, OR 97213