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Date: April 6, 2015 at 8:45:42 PM PDT

To: <Sen.DianeRosenbaum@state.or.us>, <Sen.HermanBaertschiger@state.or.us>, <Sen.ArnieRoblan@state.or.us>, <Sen.MarkHass@state.or.us>, <Sen.JeffKruse@state.or.us>, <Sen.TimKnopp@state.or.us>, <Sen.LeeBeyer@state.or.us>, <Sen.SaraGelser@state.or.us>

Cc: <Gretchen.engbring@state.or.us>

Subject: In Support of S.B. 819 and S.B. 820

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Education and Senator Rosenbaum,

As a constituent of District 21 and the parent of a student attending Emerson Elementary, a charter school in District 17, but also a staunch supporter of public education, I urge you to support SB 819 and SB 820.

A recent study by EcoNorthwest found that Oregon charter schools receive 42% less funding-per-student than district-run public schools. I have seen the amazing work our school's educators have been able to accomplish with these precious resources, but those results are only possible through the tireless fundraising and volunteer commitment of our entire school community. Our schools and our children deserve the opportunity to play on a level field.

Furthermore, SB 820 would allow charter schools to offer weighted preference in the lottery to children living in poverty or who are part of underrepresented populations.

Attending Emerson has been a tremendous gift for our daughter. Please support SB 819 and 820 to strengthen successful programs like ours.

Sincerely,

Andrea Pastor