

From: **Emily Grimm** <emily8686@hotmail.com>
Date: Thu, Mar 19, 2015 at 8:21 PM
Subject: Senate Bill 819
To: "Sen.PeterCourtney@state.or.us" <sen.petercourtney@state.or.us>

Senator Courtney,

As a parent heavily involved in my children's education, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 819.

At the beginning of this school year, the parent organization at Woodburn Arthur Academy saw a dire need. Our school owned 30 laptops that varied in brands, models, and even operating systems. They were outdated and several of them were missing keys. These laptops were the best that we had and so that is what our students tested on. This was no longer acceptable to us.

We petitioned our school director for a new set of laptops for our students. With Smarter Balance on the horizon, we wanted our children to have every chance possible to succeed. However, in her measly budget, she could not come up with all of the funds necessary to purchase 30 low-end laptops. This is just one example of how our school could benefit from a level playing field when it comes to equitable funding in public charter schools in Oregon.

If Senate Bill 819 passes, it will ensure equal funding for all students. My children deserve the ability to learn in a safe and comfortable facility and to type on a laptop with all of its keys, just as much as a student at the neighboring school. Because my children are still part of the school district that their charter school is in, all of the money allotted to my children should follow them to whichever school they are enrolled in.

I would encourage you to consider a YES vote on Senate Bill 819, for fair and equal funding for all students!

Thank you for your time,

Emily Grimm