

Dear Senator Rosenbaum,

I support passage of two charter schools bills the Senate Education Committee is considering. One assures equitable funding for charter schools (SB 819) and the other supports diversity in charter schools (SB 820). I would urge you to support and urge you to help your Senate colleagues see why they should support these two bills. The rationale on supporting SB 819 includes the below information:

According to the 2015 Study conducted by EcoNorthwest, as commissioned by the Chalkboard Project:

Oregon public charter schools in 2012-13 received less public funding on a per student basis than their district-run counterparts...42% less funding...\$5,000 less per student!

That's right, 42% less! \$5,000 less! NOT the widely misunderstood "20% less" or "5% less," because this study did not merely analyze the State School Fund/ADMw, rather ALL public funds that districts receive on behalf of public school children.

SB 819 would legally ensure that our children in (non-virtual) public charter schools receive 95% of state, local and federal public funds (excluding special education and facilities funding) that children in traditional, district-operated schools receive (leaving 5%, a typical administrative rate, at the sponsoring district). This legislation would require ZERO "new revenue." It would simply require a "shift," require that the funds follow the students for whom they are intended. This "shift" would constitute LESS THAN ONE PERCENT, less than 1%, of the state K-12 budget, yet would make a WORLD of difference to our children in public charter schools.

This makes sense to me and I hope it does to you as well. Please let me know if you'll be supporting these bills. Also, if you have any ideas for helping ensure their passage please let me know.

Best regards,

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