

Subject: SB 957

Dear Chair Roblan, Vice-Chair Knopp, Senators Baertschiger, Jr., Beyer, Gelser, Hass and Kruse,

Attached please find a letter from me opposing SB 957 and urging you to ensure that ODE and the State Board of Education retain the ability to put students' needs first and to provide meaningful oversight of Oregon's system of public instruction and its utilization of general fund dollars. I am unable to attend tomorrow's scheduled public hearing and submit this letter to you as public testimony.

Attached please also find data on high school student enrollment provided by Portland Public Schools to ODE and Parents Coalition as a result of Parents Coalition's complaint regarding instructional hours. The report demonstrates PPS high school students' continuing lack of access to mandated instructional hours, with only 47% of high school students district wide being enrolled for a full day. The changes to OAR 581-022-1620 approved by the State Board of Education in January 2015 are essential to ensuring that this practice ends and that high school students across the state are in fact able to enroll for 990 instructional hours. These administrative rule changes would be fully negated by SB 957.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Regards,

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