

March 17, 2015  
From the Desk of  
Representative  
Sherrie Sprenger

RE: HB 5017

Representative Sprenger:

You are certainly aware that the Oregon Legislature is currently proposing \$7.235 billion for K-12 funding for the 2015-17 biennium. This includes funding for Full-Day Kindergarten, which we agree is an important investment in our children. The North Santiam School District went to work in 2012 and passed a construction bond that among other things provided for the necessary classroom space to allow full-day to happen.

As we have looked at \$7.235 and determined what that funding level means to local school districts, we have been extremely disappointed to learn that the increased allocation results in a decrease in per student funding. In the North Santiam School District, we will receive \$108 less per student than last year. Full-day Kindergarten will come at the expense of class sizes and reduced high school offerings, and reduced purchases of technology and curriculum--both of which are also needed in the district.

Thanks for your time, and I appreciate the great work you do for our district.

Andy Gardner  
Superintendent