

From: Maria and James <mariaxjames@silentdragon.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 8:37 AM

To: Rep.JulieParrish@state.or.us

Subject: SB 2419 SUPPORT

Representative: I'm writing to express my strong SUPPORT for this bill, which would finally provide some funding for TAG services.

My children were TAG identified in first and second grade. They are currently in 8th and 10th grade. Their TAG experience has been virtually non-existent. Schools are very focused on under-performing children and pretty much ignore high performing children, or those who learn faster. My kids have both found that being TAG identified means nothing, as there is no difference in their experience before and after, and no difference compared to kids who learn more slowly or are behind. It's been very frustrating for them and for us as parents. The only "TAG" thing that happened for them was a pullout for a couple of hours once a week for six weeks some years ago.

Schools rely on differentiated instruction when they talk about TAG or write about TAG, but the reality is that teachers don't really do that. We need funding and direction and a requirement that the schools do certain things, not just write up a school TAG plan that is frankly full of wishful thinking if not outright lies. Funding is support and empowerment and tells schools that this matters. It's really too late for my kids to get much benefit from, but it would be good for all the future students. Please support this measure!

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