

To: House Committee on Education

From: Mayleena Robinsom

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Hi my name is Mayleena and i'm a junior at Franklin High School. I live in SE Portland and am a current recipient of YouthPass. I urge you to support for House Bill 2693. Im also apart of YEJA, the Youth Environmental Justice Alliance and we have been advocating for the local continuation and expansion of our current YouthPass program. One of the main challenges we face with this campaign is finding funding for the program. Passing this bill would provide oppurtunity for students around the state. Since I began using my Youthpass, my freshman year,I've been able to access so many new oppurtunities. Not only do I use Youthpass to get to and from school every day, but I also use it to get to my internship and weekend tutoring services. Since my family doesn't have extra money I rely on having Youthpass for getting anywhere, because without it my life would be very restricted to home and school. I believe Youthpass is important because it would allow students like myself to access oppurtunites beyond education.