

March 23, 17

Alyssa Leslie (Sutton)

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Support of SB 551 Senate Committee on Education with Request of an Amendment

Senator Dembrow,

My name is Alyssa Leslie, and as a constituent of yours, I strongly support the principles of Senate Bill 551. That being said, I believe there can be a slight amendment to the current state of the Bill. Senate Bill 551 focuses too little on the more vulnerable population of foster youth transitioning out of high school into higher education. There are roughly 12,000 children in Oregon's foster system and according to national statistics less than 50 percent of these foster youth will complete high school. I am proposing that Senate Bill 551 be amended to include a program within high schools as well.

The enclosed documents contain a policy proposal and information on a successful program. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Alyssa Leslie (Sutton)