

Senator Roblan,

On behalf of the Corvallis School District, **please adopt the -1 amendment to SB 387 and send this bill to the floor.** Corvallis School District is one of the four school districts with employees enrolled both in OEGB plans and in plans outside of OEGB. Our certified employees (teachers) are enrolled in plans outside of OEGB, while our classified and non-represented employees are enrolled in OEGB plans. It is imperative for our district to be able to offer an equitable level of benefits to all of our employees at a reasonable cost.

Our consultant, Peg Honyak of Gene Kiel and Associates, provided evidence of the demonstrated savings that could be achieved if **all** of our employees (not just our certified employees) were able to enroll in the plans we offer outside of OEGB. We refer you to those records for reference. Not only do our certified employees pay less out of pocket for their benefits, they also enjoy richer plan options. Our classified employees, who earn a much lower wage than our certified teachers, consistently pay more out of pocket for their benefits but also have higher deductibles and out of pocket maximums. When our classified employees seek an explanation as to why they are unable to participate in the same plans as our certified employees we can provide no logical explanation other than to say, "it's a state law".

We continue to run two distinct programs administratively for open enrollment; it is worth the effort to have the savings and richer benefits available for any employee we can. Allowing us to run one program would increase efficiency significantly. **Your consideration of SB 387 -1 to support providing access to equitable benefits for our employees, increase our administrative efficiency and more effectively use our financial resources is appreciated.**

Respectfully,

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