



Baker Charter Schools

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Dear House Education Committee Members,

I am writing and testifying to you today in support of the -8 Amendments on Senate Bill 208. I am Dr. Daniel Huld and I represent both Baker Charter Schools and the Oregon Digital Leaders Coalition. Baker Charter Schools is one of the largest locally managed non-profit charter school systems in the state with over 1300 students currently enrolled in our schools. Oregon Digital Leaders Coalition is a group of virtual school and program leaders in Oregon that collaborate together on operations and legislative matters. In both of these roles we fully support the -8 amendments.

However, we are adamantly opposed to the proposed -9 amendment. We have worked hard with a coalition of Oregon organizations involved in interscholastic activities like OSBA, COSA, OSAA, and district superintendents to provide access to interscholastic activities for all charter students in Oregon. We did not fight this hard for access to have to come back in five years. Our hard work is not for a temporary solution, but a lasting solution for all Oregonians. A sunset to this legislation makes no practical sense. Over the next several years, participation in these activities will increase and become an integral part of a charter students experience. Students, parents, and schools alike will be ingrained into this practice when this legislation sunsets. At that time we will all have to face the fear of losing this important opportunity when competition for resources will likely be more competitive. That is not a solution for children.

Our goal remains to provide access for all charter school students and we remain true to that purpose. We oppose the sunset and hope that you will agree. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Dr. Daniel Huld, Ed. D.

Director

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