

Baker Charter Schools 2725 7th St Baker City, OR 97814 <u>http://www.bakercharters.org</u> 541-524-2300

June 5, 17

Re: HB 2720 Testimony

Dear Joint Committee on Education,

I am writing you as President of Oregon Digital Leaders Coalition and Director of Baker Charter Schools about HB 2720. We worked for the better part of the year as a group with Representative McClain on this bill. Our group supports getting accurate, reliable, and useful information on online schools in Oregon. The mission of ODLC is to promote and foster, quality online education in Oregon and having reliable data is part of that mission.

We believe the public should have useful data pertaining to virtual schools to understand their unique place in the Oregon education system. To that end, we believe the data collected must be new data, data that goes beyond graduation rate and SBAC/OAKS scores. While we support studying online schools, in a tight fiscal year perhaps this is not the best time for this particular study. 10 of the 13 virtual schools were just audited and studied by the Secretary of State office and many of our schools just went through accreditation.

Currently we support the bill in it's original form but oppose the language that includes graduation rate and test scores in the study as that information is already collected by the Department of Education.

All the Best,

Anot

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