



PART OF THE AVAMERE FAMILY
OF INDEPENDENT COMPANIES

June 13, 2017

RE: HB 2830

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Rick Miller. I am the founder and chairman of the board of the Avamere Group, one of the Northwest's largest senior care and housing providers, and the co-founder of Rogue Venture Partners, a private equity firm that provides funding and mentoring to entrepreneurs in Oregon. I am a seventh generation Oregonian, a graduate from the University of Oregon, and earned an MBA from Portland State University. I serve on several boards including Portland State University and the Oregon Investment Council.

As an engaged community and business leader, I care deeply about our k-12 and higher education system, public infrastructure, and affordable and accessible healthcare. In order for my businesses to succeed, we rely on good schools and affordable health care, and I'm very concerned that without the Hass/Kotek plan we are going to have to make cuts to important programs and that Oregon families are going to fall further and further behind.

I strongly encourage you to help Oregon's economy and our families by approving this proposal. The bill you are considering is a positive development and I support it, and I encourage you to see this investment and this bill as the beginning of a process that will lead Oregon to have the best schools and best higher education in the country. Great schools and an invested community mean a better economic environment for my business.

I also support this proposal because it's combined with spending cuts to hold government accountable to spend our resources more efficiently so more of our tax dollars end up in the classroom and going towards direct and necessary services.

For businesses in Oregon, both large and small, failure to pass the Kotek/Hass plan would be devastating, because it would send the message that we're going to continue the below-par status quo in our schools across the state. Oregon has been piecing together mediocre school budgets for decades. We can't afford it anymore. We need a revenue package that is significant and reverses decades of disinvestment in our schools and services.

We are counting on you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Rick Miller, Chairman

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