

February 20, 2018

Oregon Senate Finance and Revenue Committee  
Oregon House Revenue Committee

Dear Chair Hass, Vice Chair Boquist, Senators Baertschiger, Riley, Taylor  
Dear Chair Barnhart, Vice Chairs G Smith & Smith-Warner, Representatives Buehler, Findley, Hernandez,  
Marsh, Nosse, Werner Reschke

As supporters of the Washington County Kids, a collaborative of over 140 individuals and organizations dedicated to increasing access to out of school time (early childhood, after school, and summer) programs, and really, all Oregon kids, we urge you to support the passage of SB1515 regarding the addition of children's service districts.

Out of school time programs have been shown to promote academic success, higher graduation rates, positive behavior and safety, and good citizenship. Quality child care and after school programs have long term effects on graduation and eventual career success. Children from lower socio-economic status (SES) families who do not participate in summer programs average 3 years behind their middle SES peers by the time they reach 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Kids who participate in early childhood, after school, and summer programs are more likely to succeed in school and future careers ([Parks, 2000](#) and [Durlak, Weissberg, et al, 2011](#)). In addition, most programs include some federally-subsidized nutrition which increases overall health and the ability to function in school.

These programs also impact the workforce. Women who utilize quality out of school time care have fewer absences and earn more. In addition, the families benefit when they can count on reduced costs for childcare, after school, and summer care. This frees up a significant part of the family's hard-earned income to pay for housing, food, and medical care.

Currently, a small percentage of kids who meet federal poverty guidelines participate in Head Start programs or the state's new Preschool Promise program. Funds are inadequate for these programs. No funds are allocated by the state for after school or summer programs. A limited amount of pass-through federal money is available. Most counties do not allocate any of their funds to these programs. Some cities provide limited funding. Non-profit programs exist but they are not available in all geographic areas. Access is difficult for many children due to wait lists, fees, and/or transportation barriers. Some recreation programs exist but they usually require additional fees and they may be difficult to access due to geographic and/or transportation barriers. Not all children are interested in recreation programs or able to participate due to physical limitations.

SB1515 merely allows citizens to sign petitions to organize these children's service districts. The bill does not cost the state any money. It allows citizens to form the districts in a democratic manner to serve the children of their community.

As concerned Oregonians, we urge you to pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Katie Riley, Ed.D.  
Chair, Washington County Kids  
250 NE Hillwood Dr.  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

## **Groups and Individuals Supporting SB1515**

### **Individuals**

Olivia Alcaire, Hillsboro City Councilor

Kyle Allen, Hillsboro City Councilor

Lisa Allen, Hillsboro School Board member

Robert Bailey, MSW, Past Pres. & Dir., Oregon Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse

Maureen Barnhart, retired Hillsboro educator

Susan Bender Phelps, CEO, Odyssey Mentoring & Leadership, LLC

Karen Bolin

Martha Brooks, Aloha

Grover Jeffrey Bornefeld, Clackamas County

Renee Brouse, Good Neighbor Center, Sherwood

Anne Bryan, Beaverton School Board member

Frank Bubenik, Councilor, City of Tualatin

Joe Christy, Past Dir, Wash Co Juvenile Dept.

Louise Curran, retired School Secretary, Chair of the Washington County Democratic Party

---

Joelle Davis, Tualatin City Council President

Salvatore J. DeTraglia III, Beaverton

Margaret Doherty, State Representative

Don Domes, Licensed Tax Consultant

Russ Dondero, Professor Emeritus, Pacific University

Dale Feik, Chair, Washington County Citizen Action Network (WC CAN)

E.A. Hames, Washington County

Dennis Hansen, Deschutes County

Keely Hansen, Deschutes County.

Connie and Russ Hanson, Coos Bay

Alissa Keny-Guyer, State Representative

Josie Koehne, Gaston

Carmen Madrid, Community Advocate, Tualatin

Stephanie Magoulis, YWCA Board Member

Greg Malinowski, Washington County Commissioner

Dorila Nava, Human Resources Manager

Karen Packer, Co-Founder, Hillsboro Education Foundation

Linda Peters, Chair Washington County Board of Commissioners 1995-1999, District 4 Commissioner 1991-1995;  
Washington County Citizen Action Network founder and Chair, 2011-2014.

Maria Caballero Rubio, Executive Director, Centro Cultural

Dick Schouten, Washington County Commissioner

Julie & Vlad Shulga

Rosie Stevens, Clackamas County

Susan Stoltenberg, Washington County

**Organizations**

Bienestar Inc.

Centro Cultural de Washington County

Chess for Success

Children First for Oregon

Children's Initiative

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids

Girls, Inc. of the Pacific Northwest

Impact NW

Math Gamers, LLC

Neighbors For Kids, Depoe Bay

Oregon Public Health Association

Ready Nation

Washington County Citizen Action Network (WC CAN)

