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Regarding LC 76

I am writing in opposition to LC 76. I am an educator retired from the Hillsboro School District, but still actively involved in the District. On June 10 I was proud to hear a news story on OPB:

“ . . . But a survey of districts that educate more than 70% of the state’s students found that most will offer weeks of summer learning targeting students in big need of a boost, most commonly migrant students, those with significant special education needs, incoming kindergartners with no preschool experience and soon-to-be freshmen who faltered in middle school . . .

“We are determined to do everything we can so that a couple hundred kids who need us the most can come to school,” said Travis Reiman, Hillsboro’s assistant superintendent for academic services.

. . . (Districts) as varied as rural Baker and Eagle Point, suburban Hillsboro and capital city Salem-Keizer say they are determined to reach some or most of their students face-to-face.”

As hard hit as the public schools in Oregon will be in these days, educators are determined to overcome as many obstacles as possible to ensure that their students have learning opportunities. LC 76 will shift funds to the online schools which are geared primarily to English speaking children who are competent with technology. Every student has lost some learning time this year. What should be happening is that we ensure those who have been disadvantaged are supported, not denied support so that privately run online schools can prosper.

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