

February 21, 2019

House Committee on Education
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Doherty and Members of the Committee,

As an Oregon native who graduated high school in Eugene and spent four more years gaining a degree in Journalism from the University of Oregon, I had a lot of time to explore this wonderful state. From the time I was a toddler up until my college graduation last summer, I spent as many weekends as I could driving up the tree lined Willamette Pass to our getaway cabin in the small town of La Pine. It was my second home. Through the years, I developed an idea of what I thought La Pine really was. A quiet town surrounded by natural beauty with a private and secluded community.

When I heard about the SCYP partnership with La Pine, I knew I had to get involved. I participated in SCYP projects through my student position at OR Media as a videographer. I was able to meet and interview locals who had been living in the area for their entire lives. I spent time with members of the La Pine city council, and got lunch with the city manager. It completely reshaped my conception of La Pine, which was in reality, one of the most vibrant and engaged small communities I have ever been a part of. While I was working with the city, I was gaining real world experiences while practicing my craft which was one of the most compelling aspects of my educational experience. SCYP is an exceptional program for serving Oregon communities as well as training students involved and the workforce. I strongly support HB 2594 to make this program accessible to all of Oregon's cities.

Sincerely,

Ty Boespflug
UO Class of 2018
School of Journalism and Communication