

To: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: HB 2516 – Prohibiting virtual public schools from using state/local funds for advertising

As a previous public school teacher and a parent of two Beaverton Public School students, I am urging you to NOT support HB 2516.

Virtual public schools offer valuable options to our current students. As such it is critical that all students who could potentially benefit from these schools be made aware of their options. Advertising and promotional materials are critical communication tools to bring such awareness.

Oregon students face major obstacles to gaining the education they need to succeed in life. According to recent studies, those obstacles are greater in Oregon than in other states. Virtual public schools have the ability to meet students' individual needs and help them overcome those obstacles. The virtual public school should be given every opportunity to reach the students who need of them.

Please do NOT support HB 2516.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of my opinions.

Susan Pozdena
Portland