

Tricia Powell
333 W. Susan St.
Roseburg, OR 97471

March 24, 2019

Dear Chair Doherty and members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Tricia Powell, and I am respectfully submitting testimony in opposition to HB2516, which places restrictions on how online schools advertise in Oregon.

My 6th grade daughter Hannah has been an online public school student since kindergarten. In 2012, I found out about online public school through an Oregon Virtual Academy television ad, sponsored by K12.com. Hannah loves her teacher, classes and curriculum. She entered 6th grade disliking math; now, it's her favorite subject! The flexible schedule of virtual public school allows her to participate in extra-curricular activities after her homework is done each day. Since kindergarten, Hannah had the opportunity to enjoy ballet, elementary choir, art classes, and Tang Soo Do (karate). During this school year, she participates in piano and a city league volleyball team.

I urge the committee to oppose HB2516 because every family needs information about all public school options, including virtual public schools. Oregonians enjoy the freedom of choice in many areas. I believe that our freedom of choice should continue in public school education, as it has in the past. Virtual public schools provide educational choice for many Oregon students like my daughter.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my family's experience with online public schools.

Sincerely,

Tricia Powell
Douglas County resident