

Dear Senators,

**I am writing in support of SB 283.** I am a retired classroom Teacher and Teacher Librarian and it was becoming very clear by the end of my tenure, that computers were being overused in our classrooms. My concerns are both educational (screen time) as well as health focused.

Regarding this bill, I am primarily concerned with the health risks. We were not heavily using wireless technology in the library when I retired, but I have seen (as a substitute and volunteer in our schools) that digital technology has grown rapidly over the past 10 years. When I started in the library, we were using 2G, with limited **wireless** technology, however, we are now exposing our children to 5G, with a huge uptick in wireless technology use in our schools. That tremendous change means our school children are now exposed to high frequency microwave radiation from wireless routers, laptops, tablets, smart boards, and cell phones for up to 7 hours each day, which scientific research has shown to effect a wide range of health issues. Medical doctors and public health experts have also shared warnings about the health effects of this radiation.

The U.S. has not kept pace with other countries across the globe that have taken steps to protect students from WiFi radiation in our schools, mostly because the Technology industries have been successful in convincing the public that WiFi radiation from wireless devices are safe, but I ask you, WHY then do our technology leaders send THEIR children to Waldorf schools where there is limited to NO technology in the primary/middle school years? As well as limit their home usage. Actions speak louder than their protests!

Oregon does not have a state agency to create policy, regulate WiFi radiation or educate the public about safety concerns. It is past time to do so. Think of the tobacco industry and the lies they fed the public for years, creating great harm to millions of Americans. We need to protect the most vulnerable among us from this threat.

Sincerely,

Catherine Carroll