From: <u>lesterlaura@everyactioncustom.com</u> on behalf of <u>Laura Lester</u>

To: JCSS Exhibits

Subject: April 11 Hearing - Supportive testimony for HB 2019

Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:49:06 AM

Dear Joint Committee on Student success,

I retired to Oregon in July 2017 from the metropolitan Washington, D.C. suburbs. I was attracted by the presence of extended family, the spectacular landscape, the good Congressional representation and the forward-seeming politics.

One of the things I have found very disappointing is that education does not seem to be a priority in Oregon.

Our children and grandchildren will be part of a GLOBAL economy and we need to give them the best possible education to prosper and thrive in that economy. Do not let us become as abjectly backwards as our present educational record--with its disparate opportunities depending on zip code and parental economic and social wherewithal--would seem to predict.

Let's build Oregon into an education state--that is a sure magnet for attracting business and prosperity. Let's give our young people the best start possible!

Sincerely, Laura Lester 218 SW Bancroft St Portland, OR 97239-4054