

February 18, 2019

Dear Madam Chair Doherty,

I am a parent of two young adult women and now a grandmother of two. I'm also a member of the Board of Directors of Ophelia's Place, a prevention-based nonprofit dedicated to helping youth make healthy life choices through empowerment, education, and support.

I'm writing to urge your support for House Bill 2604. The bill would designate \$6 million to Oregon middle and high schools to support bullying prevention programming.

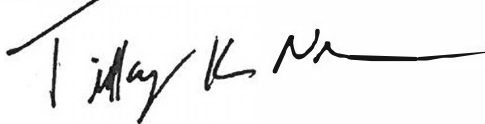
The statistics are overwhelming. Almost 30% of Oregon middle school students have been bullied at school in the last 30 days. And 59% of U.S. teens have been bullied or harassed online. Bullying makes a lasting impact on the social and educational well-being of students.

Having parented two girls through their teenage years I know firsthand the devastation that can be caused by bullying.

House Bill 2604 would allow schools to partner with community organizations to provide bullying prevention programming to students, parents, and educators. A holistic approach that involves all three partners working together has a greater chance of creating a culture of empathy and inclusion, and a space for students to be focused on learning instead of their next bully encounter.

I encourage you to support and pass House Bill 2604.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tiffany K. Nash". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Tiffany K. Nash

Member, Ophelia's Place Board of Directors
Pleasant Hill, OR