

**From:** [robert mccracken](#)  
**To:** [JCSS Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [david williams](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 2019  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 3:45:52 PM

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Honorable Committee Members,

I would like to express my strong support for HB 2019 to begin to address Oregon's severe underinvestment in public education, for the following reasons.

First, high quality public K-12 education today is fundamental for a fair, open and equitable civil society tomorrow. It is folly to think that we can underinvest in one of the pillars of modern civilization and expect a good outcome.

Second, investment in public education makes good economic sense. Oregon, like any state, must compete for the next generation of talent to drive our economy. Finding a high quality school is always a top concern for any young family, and we harm Oregon's ability to attract (or keep) that next generation when we underinvest in our public schools.

Finally, we owe it to our teachers. Public school teachers work tirelessly with students from all walks of life to help them learn, explore and succeed. They do this in the face of woefully inadequate resources and regular uncertainty about their future employment. Please honor teachers' proven commitment to our students with your support for HB 2019.

Thank you,

Robert McCracken  
Facilities Planning Coordinator  
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