

Honorable Members of the Joint Committee on Student Success

I have been watching HB2019 hoping for better funding for our schools so I am a little sad to see that we seem to have given up on that plan. Therefore it is essential that a study be conducted to determine the best way to fund our schools.

I am retired and do not have children in school. When I look at real estate investment properties I always look at the school ratings. A good school is essential to draw responsible families to a property. I see what I consider to be low ratings for most of our public schools. The Federal move to privatize education is frightening and will have an adverse impact on 'regular' children, those whose parents cannot afford private schools.

I am aware that the health of our economy, our society and our democracy is based on good **public** education. I am delighted to pay more in property and income tax or special levies to fund good education for all students in Oregon.

We need to look at how to fund schools and how to improve education (not just test results) for all our young people. Thank you for your work on this issue. Please pass at least this measure.

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