

4/18/2019

TO:
State of Oregon House of Representatives:

Hello, as both an individual, and as the person representing our organization, I am writing in support of SB543.

Current research informs us that out-of-school time programs (OST-early childhood, after school, and summer), whether they be for child care, academic assistance, or enrichment, enhance both learning, and, perhaps more importantly, the efficacy of learning, for *all* students who participate in them.

SB 543 will allow citizens to place an initiative on their county or city ballot that would support OST programs. Specifically, citizens would be allowed to collect signatures to place an initiative establishing a new type of district; that is, a Children's Service District, to provide "Children's Services" outside of school time.

The beauty of this bill is that "Children's Services" are broadly defined, meaning that each community can customize the services being offered to best meet their children's unique needs outside of school hours!

Currently, Oregon citizens can form 28 special districts (fire, water, recreation, sand removal, etc), and *not one* of those specifically allows for the funding of OST programs for our children.

Don't our children deserve better? We think they do! Thus, we are in support of passing SB 543. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kathy Cvetko, Founder/Owner
Math Gamers© LLC