

Dear HHS Committee Members,

My name is Lisa Allen, and I am writing as a parent and community leader from Hillsboro to ask you to support SB 543. While I am submitting this testimony as an individual, I also serve as an elected member of the Hillsboro School District Board of Directors, the fourth largest school district in our state.

As an active and engaged parent, every day I see my children's elementary classmates head home after school to spend time alone or with older siblings, because their parents can't afford the exorbitant cost of after-school care. While there are a very limited number of more affordable options, those programs fill up immediately and have incredibly long wait-lists.

SB 543 is an innovative solution to this problem, allowing communities like ours to consider the question of a local children's district and for the voters to decide directly.

Please push SB 543 through to a vote in the house, so we can have the opportunity to ask our community if they would like to give our children the support they deserve.

Thank you for your time and service to our state,

Lisa Allen