

Dear Chair Roblan and Smith Warner and members of the committee,

I urge your support of HB456. You will see much testimony of why this is important - I just want to speak to the issue of equity. Whether it is a work sample or an additional required test, students who speak English as their native language and who live in a home with involved parents will be more likely to meet this requirement. A student who has navigated the classroom requirements for graduation should graduate. Anything else just increases the inequality we are struggling to overcome.

As someone who has worked in schools as diverse as Catlin Gabel and Vernonia, I worry about the impact this has on both motivation to move toward graduation and actual graduation rates for our students.

Thank for your attention,

Carol Greenough, Ph.D.
9965 SW Jurgens Lane
Tualatin, OR 97062
503-975-7808