

Members of the Joint Committee on Student Success,

I am submitting this letter along with two documents sent to me by my former Superintendent in Canby, John Steach in support of SB 456.

Subsequent to leaving Canby, Dr. Steach returned to his home state of Washington where in his most recent position, he was the Superintendent of Evergreen School District. During his time there, he helped develop Washington's new graduation plan which eliminates the standardized testing barrier and provides multiple pathways for students to show competencies and was invited to Governor Inslee's signing of Washington's recent legislation which delinks graduation from passing a single standardized test.

I submit these documents, titled "Grad Requirement Revision Plan" and "Relinking Policy Statement" with the full permission of my friend Dr. Steach and thank him for his contribution to this discussion. I hope you will take his input as well as that of the other Washington Superintendents, school boards, and business groups who signed on to Washington's "Relinking" plan as you consider the narrow path Oregon's current graduation policy requires our students to walk and support SB 456.

Kathleen Jeskey
Canby