

11502 SE Washington Street
Portland, OR 97216

February 4, 2020

Dear Committee Chair Sen. Wagner, Vice-Chair Sen. Thomsen, Sen. Hass, Sen. Gelser, and Sen. Heard:

I am writing today in support of SB 1572. It is time to recognize that high-stakes testing and placing other artificial barriers to graduation from our Oregon High Schools should be left up to the local school districts.

My grandson was penalized for not having a SBAC score in math. He was placed in a general math class and then had to take two advanced math classes to compensate. This pressure had a very negative effect on his mental state to the point of his parents and myself worried about his well-being. This pressure should never ever exist.

It is time to not only pass this bill but also to resurrect SB 428 that died in committee during the last legislative session. We are wasting resources and weakening, not strengthening, our educational system.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Paul "Pat" Eck