

Dear Chair Doherty, Vice Chairs Alonso Leon and Helt, and Members of the House Education Committee,

How do you know a policy is effective? How do you know if a program "works"? How do you know if it creates harm, does good, has impact, is useful? These are all integral survey evaluation questions necessary to design and implement effective programming and policy.

As a program evaluator, I work with decision makers as well as program designers and implementers to better understand the benefits that evaluation provides to not only prove what works, but improve processes along the way. As a peacebuilding consultant, violence prevention practitioner as well as Rotary Peace Fellow, I work with organizations to integrate evaluation into programming and policy to drive more sustainable, positive outcomes.

I am writing to ask your consideration in support of HB 4132. Thank you for considering how the Oregon Student Health Survey - an integral evaluation tool - would be beneficial to reduce harm, improve health and education outcomes, and support Oregon student's and education rising from the one of the lowest graduation rate in the nation.

Kindest regards,

Michelle Helman, MA (she/her)
Rotary Peace Fellow
michellehelman.com