

Good afternoon,

My name is Britney Colton and I am writing in support of LC-21, which proposes to limit liability for schools from COVID infection.

I am a lawyer, mother of three school-aged children, and have now become an advocate to safely and with urgency return our children to the classroom. I am co-founder of Clack to School, a Facebook group that, together with sister groups, now have nearly 40,000 members across the state.

We have lobbied for months to start reopening classrooms. The science is now on our side, and yet the doors remain shut. Untold harm is being bestowed on our children by the continued shuttering of our schools. No child, thankfully, has died from Covid in Oregon. Yet, many have taken their lives. According to those families, the isolation kids are experiencing in large part due to schools being closed played a significant contributing factor in their decision to commit suicide.

We need to reopen the schools. Now. For mental health, for equity, for our children and their futures. It can be done safely. We see this bill as one step forward in this direction.

Thank you.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)