

Thank you for accepting remote testimony and for helping to prevent the spread of COVID by doing so virtually. If it is unsafe for adults to testify before the legislature, unsafe for our school board members to hold in-person meetings, unsafe for us to eat inside restaurants, then how do we imagine that letting large groups of children (many whom cannot properly use the bathroom alone, who like to chew their nails or their pencils, to fidget with their masks, or who come from "anti-masking" families) to be in a school environment?

Now is not the time. Infection numbers are climbing and the vaccine is on the way. We have made it this far without opening the schools. We can make it a few more months. No matter how many problems there are with distance learning it is not worth risking the health of our students, teachers, parents, or community to increase learning opportunities in the short term. The purpose of schools is to keep kids safe, not risk their health.

I live in rural Tillamook County where we are not testing as many people as some of the more urban areas. The data collected by the North Tillamook Public Health Information Group, made up by local folks knowledgeable and experienced in public health, shows that based on the small percentage we *have* tested, our positivity rate is high.

Please focus your efforts on improving services provided to families as they shelter in place. There are many needs that are typically filled at school and we should be working to fill those needs at home to the best of our ability.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Antoniette Naranjo-Rivera, *aunt and concerned community member*

503-801-6006

toni.naranjorivera@gmail.com

--

The logo for uniteoregon, featuring the word "uniteoregon" in a lowercase, rounded, sans-serif font. The "u" and "n" are in a dark red color, while the "iteoregon" part is in a lighter red or pink color.

Toni Naranjo-Rivera she/her

Measure 110 Senior Organizer

Email: toni@uniteoregon.org

Office: 1390 SE 122nd Ave, Portland OR 97233

www.uniteoregon.org

voteyeson110.org