

I am writing in support of SB 744 which would eliminate Oregon's requirement that students pass a graduation exam, even if all class requirements have been met.

Oregon is one of only 11 states that still have a testing requirement for graduation. Many studies have shown that graduation testing requirements do not improve future achievement, improve employment opportunities, or ensure college success. The testing requirements increase the dropout rate, especially among low-income students, English language learners, students of color, and neuro-diverse students who are already struggling.

The testing also leads teachers to teach how to take a test, rather than teaching them how to think, how to analyze information, or how to problem-solve.

Our children deserve better. If they have passed the classes required for graduation, additional testing is just a way of keeping people from achieving their potential, not helping them in any way.

Sincerely,

Sally Travi