

TO: Senate Committee On Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery.  
FROM: Mark Siegel, Executive Director, Oregon Federation of Independent Schools  
RE: SB 749

Clarification Requested

The Oregon Federation of Independent Schools has boarding schools as members.

We do not oppose SB 749. We only ask for a clarification that SB 749 does not apply to academic boarding schools.

Without clarification, it is possible that SB 749 could be misapplied to academic boarding schools, when it actually only applies to residential care referral agents working with facilities for clients with behavioral, emotional, and mental health issues.

One reason for some confusion is that

- a) SB 749 says that "residential care facility" is defined under ORS 418.205, and
- b) ORS 418.205 says that academic boarding schools are child-caring agencies.

SB 749 clearly addresses issues that do not apply to academic boarding schools, thus our request for clarification, perhaps by explicitly exempting academic boarding schools or making that intent clear in some other way.

Sincerely,

Mark Siegel  
Executive Director (volunteer)  
Oregon Federation of Independent Schools

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