For this past school year our school systems have struggled valiantly to deal with the closure of our schools and the need to still make available to our children a quality education. I laud them for their efforts. They launched into uncharted territory putting in countless hours to try and develop systems that would meet the needs of all the learning levels of the children in our districts.

Already established virtual schools have had no such difficulty. Their systems were already in place. They already knew how to reach children of multiple ability levels and learning styles. Their programs were developed through many years of experience and have a proven track record.

I asked the Senate to support SB 240 and make a way for the parents of the state of Oregon to have a chance to avail themselves of the opportunity afforded through virtual schooling.

The citizens of Oregon are already in a position where they are being forced to use online schooling. Allow us to use programs that are tried and true if we so choose.