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Subject: Senate Bill 299, Children's Service Districts — SUPPORT

House Committee on General Government

Chair Representative Marty Wilde

Vice-chair Representative Gary Leif  
Vice-chair Representative John Lively  
Member Representative Andrea Valderrama  
Member Representative Jack Zika

How could I not sign on to support SB 299 or how could you not support it? The need is great with the opportunity to do something constructive without asking for State funds presents itself with people committed to the welfare of our children stepping forward.

I signed on as a supporter of 'Out of School Time' legislation when requested to do so by Katie Riley. After reading her letter and the evidence presented, it matched my thoughts and insights about what children need – things to do/be where they can be safe and productive learning and associating with positive role models. I was fortunate to have volunteers in La Grande, Oregon who started and ran a Little League Baseball program. I started participating every summer when I was nine years old. I played American Legion Summer baseball. If there were fees to play sports, it was so small that my parents who struggled to make ends meet, could pay the few dollars required. That 'Out of School Time' program gave me my career path – and helped form my character.

I also played four years of High School Varsity Baseball (worked at Albertson's Food during my last 2 years in high school and all four years of college) and four years of College Baseball at Eastern Oregon College.

After earning my B.S. in Elementary Education in 1966 I started teaching 5th grade in Forest Grove. In 2019, I attended Jack Rainey's memorial service in Salem. He started the little league baseball program in LaGrande, mentored me from age nine, all the way through high school and got me that Elk's scholarship. At Mr. Rainey's memorial service, former Congressman Rod Chandler said "I have no doubt that young men and women who never heard of Jack Rainey have excelled in life because he influenced them through his students and players. It is surely intended to be that way. We are all given the chance to serve. Jack Rainey certainly made the most of his opportunity."

My point: Out of School Time programs have very lasting life-time positive consequences. Please support SB 299.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Feik, Ed.D, Reading Education; M.Ed., Counseling; M.S. Special Education; last assignment: self-contained classroom of 15 elementary students labeled as having emotional disabilities; previous assignments: resource room teacher for six-through ninth-grade students, coordinator of an elementary Title I reading project; retired from teaching in 1999 after serving low-performing students for over thirty years. Certificates: Superintendent, Principal, and specialty teaching.