

Submitter: Jessica Lueken  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1552

As a parent of four virtual learners, I am in support of SB 1552, removing the requirement of students to receive approval from the resident school district before enrolling in a virtual public charter school. Virtual schooling benefits children in many ways. When done correctly, virtual school is built on a structure of weekly assignments and due dates that they must meet, whether it's taking an online test; posting homework, papers, and projects; or participating in a discussion with fellow classmates, however, within the schools' structure, we have the freedom to choose the best times to participate that sync with the family's schedule. Online school connects kids from all over Oregon, expanding their views and giving them the opportunity of learning with someone from a completely different part of our State. Learning online teaches kids time-management and to be self-disciplined, finding the time to study and turn in their work without the teachers looking over their shoulders. As our world is increasing in technology, my kids have gained confidence and have become highly productive using interactive online tools for online tests, drop boxes for homework, collaboration tools, correct e-mail communication etiquette to their teachers and fellow classmates, and video editing. Learning these skills early will give them a headstart when it comes to a career later in life. My children have received a better education and in less time in their virtual school than they did in the physical public school they attended. I would like to see more parents having the option to choose this wonderful alternative to a brick and mortar school. Thank you.