

Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Hudson, Vice-Chair Wright, and Members of the Committee:

I am a high school sophomore in a rural community in Oregon and I strongly support HB 2768, the bill that seeks to establish a program to assist student inventors in the development of their intellectual property. As a student in a rural area, I have witnessed firsthand how limited access to resources and support can limit the potential of young people with innovative ideas.

This bill presents a unique opportunity for students like me to have our ideas and inventions supported and nurtured. It gives us the chance to turn our creative minds and innovative spirit into tangible products that can benefit our communities and even change the world. With the help of the Department of Education and education service districts, we can have access to the resources and support necessary to turn our ideas into a reality.

Furthermore, the establishment of the Oregon Invents Partnership Fund is crucial in providing financial support for student inventors and their projects. This will greatly help us overcome the challenges posed by limited access to resources and funding.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 2768 and invest in the future of student inventors in Oregon. By doing so, you will not only empower young people like me to turn our ideas into reality, but you will also support the growth of a robust and innovative economy in our state.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Devon Lawson-McCourt

Sophomore Class President, McKenzie River Community School
Vida, Oregon