

Submitter: Michael Allen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB421

Dear members of the Senate Committee on Education

My name is Michael Allen, I and my wife Pat are elders living on the beautiful Oregon coast just north of Florence. We both support SB 421.

I am writing to first advise you of the appointment of a sophomore from Siuslaw High School to the City Of Florence's Transportation Committee. I understand there is another student on the Transportation Systems Plan Ad Hoc Committee who was elected co-chair.

The Siuslaw School Board has also involved youth by appointing two students to the School Board as non-voting members and recruited another student to give reports at each board meeting. I serve on the superintendents' Policy committee and that committee has an opening for a student.

All these efforts are great. But SB 421 will expand the opportunities for our youth to serve on governmental bodies. Passage of this bill and the creation of this collaborative would support youth leaders, particularly youth who have been historically underserved and under-represented, in participating in the policy-making process at the state level.

We request that you support SB 421. Students need to have a voice in the issues that affect their lives. By supporting this bill, you will show us that you know their input is meaningful and important.

Thank you for your attention to this most important matter.

Michael Allen
Florence