

Submitter: Tom Trussell
On Behalf Of: Serendipity Center
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB633

My name is Tom Trussell and I have worked with Serendipity Center for well over a decade. I'm writing to respectfully ask you to support Senate Bill 633 coming up for a hearing in the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday, March 21st.

Senate Bill 633:

- allocates critical funding for Oregon's highest needs students;
- establish a special education multi-district collaborative model; and
- would promote establishing regional special education centers in Oregon, dedicated to healing struggling youth with mental health challenges and disabilities.

The impact to traditional schools across Oregon not having schools like Serendipity to send troubled students would be very disruptive. Students that attend Serendipity have experienced trauma — and many have behavioral problems that simply need extra attention. Traditional schools do not have the resources and its why over 20 Portland-area school districts' send some of their public school students to Serendipity for these needed services.

I'm a strong supporter of Senate Bill 633 and Serendipity Center's ability to provide trauma-informed services to this population of Oregon students.

Passing Senate Bill 633 would help ensure EVERY CHILD IN OREGON DESERVES AN EDUCATION.

Most Sincerely,
Tom Trussell