

Submitter: Margaret DeLacy
On Behalf Of: Kayla Selans
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB595

Good afternoon, members of the Senate Committee on Education. My name is Kayla Selans. I live in Portland, Oregon and I wholeheartedly support SB 595. My son attends a school for gifted students. I am grateful for him to have this experience but I know first hand that this school needs a lot more help and assistance than they are provided.

While TAG programs exist within Oregon school districts, and some districts are fortunate enough to have dedicated programs or schools for gifted children, it is still not enough.

These programs and schools face the same problems all other schools do. There is 1) an extreme lack of teachers, 2) a pressing need for assistance to existing teachers in the classroom, and 3) the need for more speech, occupational, and emotional support.

Additionally, TAG programs need more funds for creating activities, lessons or trips for these students to improve their academic experiences. Oregon schools are greatly suffering in the TAG department.

Two students submitted this video for the committee to view:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9PdhXGGt9f0>