Submitter: Margaret DeLacy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure: SB736

SB 736 creates a study to find out how to increase access for advanced instruction.

In large districts with several high schools, a district may claim to offer advanced classes without noting that they were not equally available in every high school.

The study can also address issues such as access to advanced classes in middle school and the implications of Oregon's new recommended math sequence.

There is evidence that access to advanced classes beginning as early as middle school makes a difference to students' success in college and career.

There is also evidence that access to advanced instruction is inequitably distributed.

Much of this information is provided by districts to the Oregon Department of Education as part of their TAG plans, which are updated every third year, but it is not collected and analyzed for a state-level report that could guide policy. Education Northwest also provides helpful data but it only applies to high school students, the smallest unit is a district, and it only reflects what has already happened....not how to improve it. we also lack information about the effect of district and school policies on access. .