



Bill: House Bill 2767

Position: Support

Name: Theran Nimz

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, and members of the House Committee on Education:

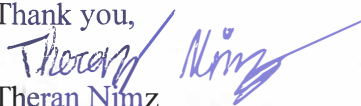
I am writing today in support of House Bill 2767, which will create a long-term, sustainable funding and governance model for recovery high schools in Oregon. Recovery high schools provide a safe, supportive education for youth in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders and **it is critical that Oregon begin investing in these life-saving programs.**

HB 2767 is the product of an interim interagency workgroup commissioned by HB 5202 in 2022 and offers a clear, collaborative path forward to expand, support and govern recovery high schools across the state.

Harmony academy has helped me hugely in my recovery by being surrounded with sober friends and staff that support me. I went to residential treatment for three months for my mental health and drug addiction issues, and when I returned home harmony was waiting for me to attend. I put in a huge effort to be able to stay in this school and stay sober. Harmony academy is yet the only recovery highschool in Oregon and I think if this bill follows through, we could open up a few more recovery highschools in Oregon. Doing this I think will help a lot with the fentanyl epidemic.

Oregon ranks 50th in the nation for substance use treatment and recovery support. This legislation provides a cost-effective and proven way to support adolescents in recovery as they work to gain their high school diploma.

On behalf of Harmony Academy **I urge your support for House Bill 2767** and ask that you vote **YES** on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation.

Thank you,

Theran Nimz