Bill: House Bill 2767 Position: Support

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.

As an elementary school vice principal, I work with children on a daily basis. I know the importance of passing House Bill 2767. Many of our children have been traumatized (or not) and could easily go down the path of addiction. Allowing eligible, qualified recovery high schools to become ODE-designated educational entities is imperative.

Oregon ranks last 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.

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

Thank you,

Ann Donaca

Ann E. Donaca, M.Ed.

(she, her) Vice Principal

Multnomah Learning Academy – Portland, Oregon

Mission: Education for ALL!