

Bill: House Bill 2767 **Position**: Support **Name**: Reed Wilson

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.

I am currently at Harmony Academy in Lake Oswego, OR. I've been at this school since the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year which makes me the one of two longest attendees that is still currently enrolled. I have gone to psych-wards, out of state treatment, and different AA/NA meetings before I attended Harmony Academy and this school is the only thing that has kept me mostly sober throughout the almost two years of attending. The reason I say mostly sober is because I have relapsed a handful of times but that was because of things in my personal life.

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

Thank you,

Reed Wilson

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