

Submitter: Trask Colby

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Education

Measure: HB5015

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Education sub-committee.

My name is Trask Colby, I am a teacher for Portland Public Schools (PPS), and my daughter attends PPS school Rose City Park Elementary (RCP) in the Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion programs. This year, RCP was allocated only .5 FTE for their Assistant Principal position. This is not enough for a school of 470 students, this is also not a good faith investment in building equity in our schools, as this resulted in our AP, one of only 2 Vietnamese administrators in the district, to leave in search of full time employment.

Increasing funds to allow our district to prioritize important programs like the Vietnamese Dual Language Immersion program is a necessity. With the current budget, devastating cuts had to be made.

I urge you to continue to increase and invest in our schools, as an investment in our children today, provides a lifetime of economic opportunity and savings on our social safety net.

Thank you for your time.