

I write to you on behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Community Charter Schools, our state's charter support organization and are a coalition of community-based, public charter schools representing all corners of our state. We represent approximately 26,000 public school students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade, operating in about 100 buildings.

Now more than ever, we have seen how Oregon families and students have varying needs and wants when it comes to their education. Our schools, as public charter schools, have been developed to meet these varying needs and our educational models are founded on the principle of meeting our students where they are.

It is for those reasons that we support HB 4082 which would establish a Summer Learning Grant Program within the Oregon Department of Education. Summer learning boosts youth engagement, accelerates learning, and nurtures the health and well-being of students and their families.

We urge this committee to invest in summer learning and support the Oregon Department of Education in developing and implementing the program. This program will advance a more racially just and community-centered education system for Oregon children.

Best, Iris Maria Chavez Director Oregon Coalition of Community Charter Schools