

Submitter: Sophie Kasner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB4137

I am an International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidate, but before I was an IB student, I was a band student. I've been in elective music classes for the majority of the time I've been in public school, and it is a very big and important part of my life. I am currently playing in three performing ensembles at my school, two of which take place before and after the normal school day. However, the third and arguably most important, the wind ensemble, takes place during the school day. If I had to fulfill Oregon Diploma requirements in addition to the ones mandated by the International Baccalaureate Diploma- which already requires several more credits than the Oregon Diploma does in addition to responsibilities outside of the classroom- I would no longer have the time in my class schedule to take wind ensemble. As I stated before, being in band is very important to me and often the highlight of my day. Students in music classes often do better in school than those who do not, and with IB's already rigorous course load, fulfilling a second set of requirements for a different diploma than the one we will be granted will do more harm than good.