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On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB4161

Today, I come before you to shed light on the profound impact of House Bill 4161 on our low-income Hispanic children in Oregon.

House Bill 4161 is not just another piece of legislation; it's a beacon of hope for our most vulnerable students. By reducing the cap on students attending charter schools, this bill ensures that resources and support are concentrated where they're most needed. For low-income Hispanic children, often facing barriers to accessing quality education, this is a game-changer.

Furthermore, HB 4161's provision for education savings accounts directly benefits low-income families. These accounts provide much-needed financial assistance for educational expenses, alleviating the burden on families struggling to make ends meet. With access to these resources, children can pursue their educational goals without being held back by financial constraints.

Moreover, by requiring school districts to participate in open enrollment and allowing students from other districts to attend schools within their district, HB 4161 breaks down geographical barriers that often limit educational opportunities for low-income Hispanic children. It empowers families to choose the school that best meets their child's needs, regardless of where they live.

Additionally, the bill's emphasis on increasing oversight and control over enrollment processes ensures that low-income Hispanic children are not unfairly excluded or overlooked. It promotes equity and fairness in education, guaranteeing that every child has an equal opportunity to succeed.

In conclusion, House Bill 4161 is a lifeline for our low-income Hispanic children in Oregon. It opens doors, removes obstacles, and paves the way for a brighter future. I urge you to support this critical legislation and stand with our Hispanic community in their pursuit of quality education and upward mobility. Thank you.