

Submitter: Smitha Chadaga

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2729

Chair Neron and Members of the Committee:

My name is Smitha Chadaga and I am hospital medicine physician with two teen children.

I support HB 2729 because it provides critical resources that kids and families in Oregon need now. Oregon is ranked at the bottom of our country when it comes to youth mental health resources. We see this effect in schools via rates of student absenteeism, and student behavioral issues. HB 2729 provides evidence-based resources that allow school to help kids mentally and physically. Research has shown that resources such as these decrease depression and suicide ideation.

Our kids need this support now. I urge you to vote yes on HB 2729.

Thank you,

Smitha

Smitha R Chadaga MD FHM FACP