

Submitter: Clairissa Stephens

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

I am writing today to urge your support for HB 3444. My daughter attends Springwater Environmental Sciences School in Oregon City, which offers a unique opportunity for hands-on learning and research in our natural surroundings. Unfortunately, our school receives only 80% of the state funding required to fully meet its operational needs. As a result, parents in our school community have been compelled to contribute additional funds to help fill this funding gap.

For the past three years, our school has requested the district to increase the funding pass-through from 80% to 85%. Furthermore, the district's decision to eliminate bus services last year has forced us to allocate significant funds that could have been reserved for essential building improvements towards transportation costs instead.

Springwater provides invaluable public education options for families in Oregon City. By passing HB 3444 and increasing our funding percentage, we would be empowered to effectively plan for necessary facility repairs, infrastructure improvements, and safety upgrades. Your support is crucial in sustaining innovative and creative educational environments in the state of Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Clairissa Stephens