

Submitter: Joshua Colvin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

I have had the privilege of teaching at Bend International School for the past ten years, witnessing firsthand the profound impact it has on students in Central Oregon. Our school, like many other high-performing charter schools across the state, consistently exceeds the academic performance of traditional district schools. Yet, despite our success, students attending charter schools continue to receive inequitable funding compared to their peers in district-run public schools.

This is a matter of fundamental fairness. Charter schools are an essential part of Oregon's public education system, serving as hubs of innovation, academic excellence, and community engagement. They provide diverse learning environments that meet the unique needs of students, and they serve as models for educational best practices statewide.

The proposed bill does not introduce a new tax or fee; rather, it is a common-sense adjustment to ensure that all public school students—regardless of whether they attend a charter or district school—receive equitable funding. By supporting this measure, we can help Oregon's charter schools reach their full potential and continue providing high-quality education to students across the state. I thank you for this consideration on this matter.