

Submitter: Evan Wilson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

I am the Child Nutrition Coordinator for Madrone Trail Public Charter School (I oversee our school breakfast and lunch program). At Madrone, students and parents enjoy an amazing selection of scratch-made meals every school day. We value quality nutrition as an essential component to education and work hard to this end. Our program comes at great expense to our school, however, and we have an entire team of admins and board members who work constantly to budget funding for our efforts. With upcoming USDA cuts to school nutrition programs, passing HB 3444 is ESSENTIAL to allowing us to continue serving quality food to our students. I have also experienced first hand how the current model of funding puts strain on our school overall. We rely too heavily on fundraisers and parent volunteers to maintain the school, and the expectations are too high as many projects simply fall to the wayside. Please pass HB 3444 so charter schools can receive the funding they need in order to offer alternative education models for Oregon families. Thank you.