

Hello,

I am the parent of a student at Bend International School (BIS) - a public charter school in Bend, OR. I drive 20 miles each way (to and from school) 5 days a week as BIS is our best option; offering students an education that prepares them for the global world.

I am writing in support of HB3444 and hope that it will ensure funding necessary to maintain these programs for all students.

All public school students in Oregon deserve the same investment in their education, whether attending a public charter school or public district-run school. Right now students in public charter schools receive 48% of the funding that their peers in district-run schools receive.

Our state's founding and now outdated charter school legislation is not in line with our state's current priorities. It restricts funding for early education and intervention, as well as investment in our historically underserved communities.

We ask that HB 3444 be referred to committee and that they support its passage.

Thank you in advance for supporting all students.