

Submitter: Jessica Foote
On Behalf Of: Portland public schools
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

My daughter has severe dyslexia, dyscalcula and dysgraphia. She works so hard in school but also has inattentive adhd, and in her crowded and chaotic PPS classroom with many other high needs children, her needs are often ignored as she is able to sit quietly. But she comes home and cries and feels worthless. We can't keep doing this to our kids. We can't keep pulling funding away from education (you say you add funding, but then you divert funding away in other ways and have been underfunding public education in Oregon for decades now.) This is a travesty to our kids, and an emergency for Oregon's future. We need these kids- all kids with different needs- to learn and grow up to contribute their different perspectives to our society, to solve the problems we face. We need MORE FUNDING. Invest in our schools now and it will pay off for Oregon's future. Otherwise we will continue this spiral and pay for more jails, social services, fixing problems we could have avoided by helping kids get what they need to thrive and contribute to our community. Parents are more involved and aware than ever before on these issues- we are watching what you do on this vote!