



## OREGON COALITION OF COMMUNITY CHARTER SCHOOLS

TO: House Education Committee

RE: HB 2007

DATE: March 19, 2025

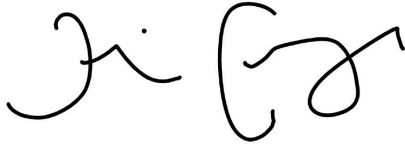
I write to you on behalf of the Oregon Coalition of Community Charter Schools, our state's charter school association, we are a coalition of community-based, public charter schools representing all corners of our state. We represent public school students in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade in all corners of Oregon. We would like to express our disappointment with HB 2007 and encourage further conversation with stakeholders to strengthen this piece of legislation.

We all know Oregon families and students have varying needs when it comes to their education. Our schools, as public charter schools, have been developed to meet these varying needs. Our educational models are founded on principles of being innovative, deliberate in our approach, and meeting our students where they are. To be clear: meeting students where they are means we need to assess their learning and social-emotional needs in order to develop *the right programming* to be delivered at the *right point in time*. That may be critical thinking skill development, literacy support, or math enrichment. So, in developing summer learning programs we aim to ensure our students are engaged during those months in activities that help them show up at the start of the academic year grounded in various subjects and prepared to engage in further learning.

It is for those reasons that we cannot support HB 2007 as introduced and would propose that the sponsoring legislators and this committee consider significant revisions to HB 2007. The narrow focus of this proposal will hamper our ability to deliver high quality summer learning programs. While important, literacy is only one piece of the learning and enrichment "pie" our students need. Summer learning boosts youth engagement, accelerates learning, and nurtures the health and well-being of students and their families. We propose utilizing the recommendations provided by the HB 4082 (2024) workgroup to enrich this legislation and create a summer learning & afterschool grant program that honors the workgroups research based recommendations.

Investing in a comprehensive approach to summer learning, one that acknowledges that schools, community based organizations, Tribes, and ESDs know what our students need and trusts that we can deliver that programming in a quality manner is within reach this legislative session.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Iris Maria Chavez'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'I' and 'M'.

Iris Maria Chavez

Director

Oregon Coalition of Community Charter Schools