

March 19, 2025

Chair Courtney Neron
Vice-Chair Emily McIntire
Vice-Chair April Dobson
Members of the House Education Committee

RE: Opposition to HB 2007 – The Importance of Holistic Learning for Oregon’s Youth

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chair McIntire, Vice-Chair Dobson, and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Angie Jimenez, and I serve as the Family Engagement Manager at Adelante Mujeres. In this role, I work with families and youth in Forest Grove, Hillsboro, and Beaverton, witnessing daily the profound impact that culturally responsive extracurricular programs have on our students’ academic and personal growth. As a firsthand witness to the power of these programs, I strongly urge you not to support HB 2007 in its current form.

HB 2007, as written, fails to provide comprehensive support for our youth. It focuses narrowly on summer learning aligned with literacy, overlooking the necessity of holistic and developmentally appropriate approaches. Our students need both academic and enriching opportunities to thrive—not just in the classroom but as well-rounded individuals with confidence, leadership skills, and emotional resilience to succeed.

At Adelante Mujeres, our Chicas Youth Development program provides Latina young women with vital opportunities to build self-esteem, foster leadership skills, and engage with their communities. Many of these students enter our program feeling disconnected, but through extracurricular activities, they find their voice, develop a sense of belonging, and become motivated to excel academically. I have seen young women transform—students who once struggled with confidence now mentor younger peers, take on leadership roles, and feel empowered to pursue higher education. These critical developments do not happen in isolation; they are cultivated through year-round support that includes summer and afterschool programming.

The lack of inclusion for extracurricular programs in HB 2007 ignores the reality of what our students need to thrive. By focusing solely on literacy, the bill undermines the vital work of community-based organizations that provide culturally relevant, wraparound support for students and their families. It also fails to recognize the recommendations put forth in HB 4082, which emphasized the importance of enrichment opportunities in supporting academic success.

I urge you to reconsider and amend HB 2007 to include support for afterschool and summer enrichment programs. If we are truly committed to educational equity, we must invest in the full spectrum of opportunities that ensure students, especially those from historically underserved communities, receive the holistic support they deserve.

Thank you for your time and commitment to Oregon's youth.

Angie Jimenez
Family Engagement Manager
Adelante Mujeres