

Submitter: Regina Mannino
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4022

Dear Chair Hartman, Vice Chairs Scharf and Walters, and House Interim Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services members,

I'm reaching out as a proud supporter from Southern Oregon of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Oregon (DPILOR) to ask for your help in codifying our program into an Oregon statute. Please support HB 4022. DPILOR makes books available (at no cost) to every Oregon child under age 5, in every zip code, regardless of income. Thanks to the State's investment and our 56 Local Program Partners, today we can say 73,347 Oregon children are enrolled. As of April 2025, we've achieved program coverage in every one of Oregon's 36 counties, and as of June, families are able to sign-up for the fully bilingual English/Spanish book collection.

The engaging titles DPILOR delivers encourage additional reading in the homes of young children, which supports family bonding and grows children's minds in so many ways. The result is that children enter school more prepared than they otherwise would be. My daughter is signed up to this program, and we have wonderful memories of reading Green Tractor, Llama Llama Red Pajama, and Ice Cream Face, among many others. The book Mine, Mine, Mine, Yours! was especially meaningful to my daughter, featuring themes of friendship, friend visits, sharing, turn taking, and saying goodbye.

Please support HB 4022 to keep the Imagination Library of Oregon going strong and available for Oregon's children for years to come.

Sincerely,
Regina Mannino
Ashland Oregon