

Submitter:

Kellen Wilson

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4125

My name is Kellen Wilson. I live in NE Portland and my daughter is a current 3rd grader in PPS. My son left PPS in January for a private school because his classroom environment created an impossible learning environment. 30 children, one teacher, loud, no air conditioning, desks crammed together, competing needs (language barriers, IEPs, different learning levels and speeds). He would leave school each day disheartened and down on himself. The narrative shift in what kind of student he could be had shifted to school not being a good fit for him. Our school has FTE cuts each year and it is estimated there will be additional cuts coming, eliminating even more support staff. Our school is a true community school. K-8, diverse socio-economically, kids walk and ride their bikes, we have built a thriving community here but we are losing students every year because of the lack of resources our kids have access to. I want to bring my son back for middle school here and I want my daughter to stay at our neighborhood school.

I support this bill because it will allow for more space for our schools to budget for the needs of our community. I don't want the kicker at all, I want our schools to serve our kids.