I support HB 2680, but believe it needs to go much further to protect Oregon's children from the misuse and abuse of state summative assessments for the purpose of labeling children as failures, ranking schools and evaluating teachers.

HB 2680 should permanently eliminate using state summative assessments (smarter balanced) to label children as "Not college or career ready" (aka failures), rank schools as "Focus" or "Priority" or Level 1 - 5 and evaluate teachers.

HB 2680 should establish a moratorium on administering the smarter balanced assessments until the tests have been determined to be valid, developmentally appropriate and free of cultural, linguistic and socio-economic bias.

Please find attached an article referring to the Portland Association of Teacher's adoption of a resolution opposing administration of the smarter balanced assessments and a link to PAT President Gwen Sullivan's statement at a PPS board hearing expressing teacher concerns about administering smarter balanced tests will be akin to child abuse.

Portland teachers union resolution objects to new Smarter Balanced test

PAT President on High Stakes Testing: Smarter Balanced

Thank you for considering my concerns about the misuse and abuse of state summative assessments (smarter balanced) and the disastrous consequences for Oregon's children.

Sincerely,

Betsy Salter PPS Parent