

Chair Roblan and distinguished members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Anna Newman, and I am currently a 12th grade student at Redmond Proficiency Academy, a public charter school in Redmond, Oregon. Before attending Redmond Proficiency Academy, I had previously attended an all too common public high school. I can distinctly recall attempting to find my way to class through halls filled with hundreds of students that each held their own goals and ambitions deserving to be recognized as such. It is precisely my own longing for individualism within my education that caused me to veer away from the concept of a traditional public school, and pursue an education where I would be seen as an important piece of a community. My experience attending a charter school has been without a doubt the most beneficial decision I could have made for my life. I am confident when I say that I would not have had the opportunity to complete high school without Redmond Proficiency Academy, and therefore not have pursued higher education. Being a student at a public charter school has given me the opportunity to own my education. I have been able to take advanced classes, as well as work closely with faculty to improve my academic performance in specific areas of study. I am treated and valued as an individual, as well as granted the chance to explore my academic and career interests. I know many of my friends and peers have shared similar experiences in their own academic journey, however I speak now for myself when saying that given the opportunity to attend a charter school has transformed my future, and that is why I support measure SB 915, and I encourage you to do the same. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anna Newman

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The graphic features a blue silhouette of a graduate on the left. The text is centered and uses a mix of blue and green colors. A green horizontal bar highlights the 'Apply Now at' text and the logo.

