

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 30



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2/6/2019

RE: SB 52 - Requires school districts to adopt policy on student suicide prevention

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Thomsen, and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

I am writing in support of SB 52. It is imperative that we adopt a suicide prevention plan in Oregon. I wholeheartedly support SB 52's passage because it would bring us in line with 47 other states that have a similar plan in place. It will send a strong, clear message to our youth that we value who you are, where you come from, and we are here to support you to ensure you have a future filled with possibilities.

I thank the all the sponsors and numerous stakeholders for coming together to create positive change in the name of Adi Staub, a transgender student who died by suicide last year. As a mom, a former school board member and now as a state legislator, I know all too well this topic is of the utmost importance.

This bill will ensure that all K-12 public schools in Oregon have access to suicide prevention policies and specifically address at-risk youth groups such as LGBTQ youth. Last year, I held an event with Representative Susan McLain called "Student Speak". It provided an opportunity to our high school students to talk with their state legislators about the issues they are facing daily. The overwhelming response that we heard was an increased need for mental health services and professionals in our schools. I am sponsoring this bill on behalf of all those students who spoke up for themselves and for those who need this assistance the most. Thank you.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janeen Sollman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janeen Sollman
State Representative
House District 30
Parts of Banks, North Plains, Hillsboro, and Beaverton