To whom it may concern:

I am the father of twin boys with congenital hearing loss due to large vestibular aqueduct syndrome, and I am writing to ask for your support of SB 352. At the age of three, my sons' total vocabulary consisted of the word, "Ma." Once diagnosed, we were fortunate to have an audiologist who told us about the amazing services provided by Tucker Maxon, a school for the deaf and hard of hearing. Our boys entered Tucker Maxon in 2002, transitioned to our parish school in sixth grade, and graduated from La Salle College Prep as valedictorians. Today they are thriving as sophomores in the mechanical engineering program at the University of Portland, and they are on track to graduate at the end of their junior year. I attribute their past and continued success in school, as well as life, to the education and confidence they obtained at Tucker Maxon.

SB 352 is a one-time allocation to help Tucker Maxon School purchase a new heating system. The current system is over 65 years old, and it is both costly to maintain and fuel inefficient. The school is non-profit and currently receives no financial support from the state. They operate solely on funds from donations and tuition.

I hope you will support SB 352.

Sincerely,

Jim Bryan, MD, PhD