



Grouptrail

April 18, 2019

Dear Chair Roblan and Chair Smith Warner, Vice Chairs and members of the Committee,

My name is Justin Yuen, and I'm the CEO of Grouptrail, a software company with employees who care deeply about empowering teams to make a difference. We were founded 15 years ago and have been committed to our local community from the start. I'm also a founding member of Better Business Portland and a member of The Street Trust board.

I'm proud to support the Student Success Act because I believe that with new classroom investments we can ensure students from all backgrounds are prepared for fulfilling and successful careers. No matter a student's zip code, they should receive a high quality education and have an opportunity to thrive in Oregon's economy. With the Student Success Act, I believe that this vision is finally possible.

Over the years, I have been particularly concerned by Oregon's large class sizes. As you know, Oregon's class sizes are among the largest in the nation — with some classrooms holding as many as 56 students. It's clear that our classrooms are far too crowded for educators to provide the individual attention that students need to succeed. So I am excited to see that the Student Success Act provides funding to reduce our class sizes and to restore technology and career readiness programs. These are the classes and opportunities that keep students engaged and help them to prepare for the future.

A commercial activities tax is a fair way to raise substantial and stable investments in Oregon students — I believe our schools need *at least* \$2 billion in new investment. Businesses that call Oregon home and those that do business in our state have a stake in the strength of our schools and the future of our students. Our businesses do better when more students succeed.

I urge you to pass the Student Success Act, and I thank the committee for all the hard work you have done to get us to this point. The process has been thoughtful and transparent, and I look forward to seeing these investments transform the lives of Oregon students and strengthen our communities.

Justin Yuen
Grouptrail

