



**Allison Galvin**  
**Executive Director**

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Re: HB 3236

To: House Chair Alonso-Leon, and Members of the House Committee on Education

Oregon Charter Academy has been a leader in public virtual online education for 16 years, currently serving over 4,400 students and 250 staff and teachers. In addition to accessing their curriculum in a dynamic manner, students also have access to our various programs and resources such as AVID, CTE Pathways, dual credit, teen parent program, various clubs and activities and even unique programs such as our partnership with NASA.

We appreciate the intent of HB 3236 in recognizing the value of different educational pathways available to students in our public education system, and the need to ensure those students are fully supported wherever those educational choices lead them. Oregon Charter Academy is not alternative education; rather, a public charter school where students access their learning online. We provide a dynamic and comprehensive education experience for our students. House Bill 3236 outlines the various forms of education pathways to be included in the Task Force. Public charter schools are not part of the alternative education system.

If public charter schools are to be included in the groups outlined in HB 3236, we believe virtual school representation should be included on the Task Force in order to bring the comprehensive knowledge we have in this school choice offering. We provide a unique educational experience, and including proven educators' input would contribute to a holistic understanding of the opportunities and challenges faced by virtual charter schools. For example, access is the biggest barrier faced by students who choose virtual charter schools when they encounter the 3 percent cap on enrollment. We hope that the Task Force will examine the need for greater access and equitable funding for all educational pathways.

I appreciate the work you all are doing, particularly during this pandemic, and that you recognize the struggles many students across Oregon face.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison Galvin".

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