



To: Chair Dembrow and members of the Senate Education Committee

From: Jared Mason-Gere, Oregon Education Association Government Relations

RE: Support for SB 602

In 2015, with overwhelming bipartisan support (47-10 House vote, 24-6 Senate vote) the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2655 giving parents and students the right to opt out from summative standardized tests if they determine the test is not right for them. At the time, a sunset provision was included in the bill that would end the opt-out policy on July 1, 2021 if not renewed.

HB 2655 has worked just as intended. Oregon legislators should remove the sunset and continue the work to empower students and educators while reducing the disproportionate ill-effects of the overemphasis on standardized tests.