

My name is Kristi Kutcher and I live in Eugene, Oregon. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on SB240.

I am the parent of a child who is seeking to enroll in a full time virtual charter. We applied for enrollment last fall and were declined by our local school district. We have been enrolled in the virtual option provided by our local school district during the last year and the amount of education provided to my first grader is dramatically reduced from what he would have been provided had he been allowed to attend a virtual charter. Prior to the covid-19 pandemic our district had no virtual option so they have created it as the year progressed, as a result, he only had virtual instruction 6 hours a week with no additional instruction out of class.

Virtual charters are proven established programs that have state certified teachers and curriculum. Thousands of students like my own have been denied enrollment to the school of their choice based on the 3% enrollment cap on fulltime virtual public charter schools.

I urge legislators to eliminate the enrollment cap so that more students can take advantage of this important education option. My child is seeking enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year and we are awaiting the release from our district based on the cap at this time.