

I write in ardent support of this resolution honoring my friend and former colleague, Sarah Cohen-Doherty.

In her too-few years on this earth, Sarah brought tremendous joy to many, supported the potential of countless children and people that became her friends, and soothed the pains of anyone hurting in her midst. Sarah had a dedication to uplifting and supporting young children to get the foundation they need for a vibrant, successful life. She did so as an early education teacher and administrator and as a mother, auntie, and friend.

While not overshadowing that work and contribution, her passion to make a difference on a systems level at the root cause of inequities for children and families helped lift and fuel the success of the Multnomah County Preschool for All effort. She worked for years through her role at Social Venture Partners to support the strategy development, communications, coalition building and cheerleading for the effort. She worked alongside education leaders, government officials, philanthropists and parents to enroll them in the effort and channel their interests and power for the benefit of Preschool for All's beneficiaries: generations of children that will have a joyful, quality preschool experience that is right for them.

The world is a better place with Sarah in it. Sadly, we lost the physical embodiment of her energy, passion and spirit but resolutions like SCR 1 help to keep those alive as inspiration for others. I urge your support of the measure to memorialize and keep alive Sarah's contribution and passion.