



Jessica Vega Pederson
Multnomah County Commissioner

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March 25, 2021

Dear members of the Senate Committee on Education,

Today I write to share my deep appreciation for the accomplishments of Sarah Cohen-Doherty, and to ask for your support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1.

I had the privilege of working alongside Sarah for more than two years as we developed Multnomah County's Preschool for All program, which will provide universal, high-quality preschool for all 3 and 4 year-olds in Multnomah County. Sarah's unflagging work to develop this groundbreaking program was indispensable and her passion and commitment were visible in every interaction I had with her. Simply put, the measure would not have been successful without her work. Throughout our time together I watched Sarah bring together diverse voices to craft meaningful change and always prioritize the needs and experiences of marginalized people. Her dedication to children and families was consistently on display as she worked to design programs that help all of our communities thrive.

Although she did not survive to see its success on the 2020 ballot, Preschool for All will live on as a testament to the lifelong commitment Sarah had to our children and families. Her contributions to our state, beyond this initiative and encompassing all of the work she did throughout her career, will live on as an indelible marker of the legacy she left behind.

Sarah Cohen-Doherty was a champion for our children and working families, and her contributions will impact Oregonians for decades to come. I thank you for honoring her service to our state, and ask that you support SCR-1.

Sincerely,

Jessica Vega Pederson
Multnomah County Commissioner