

February 16, 2022

Re: SB 1552

Dear Senate Education Committee Chair Dembrow and members of the committee,

I am urging you to vote against SB1552 as it is written. As a public school educator for the past 28 years, I know firsthand the importance of public education funding. We do not need any more ways to siphon off much needed dollars to support students in our system. We still have not fully funded the QEM model. This bill is just another example of how some refused to recognize the challenges we continue to face in public education.

As a member of the Education Caucus of the DPO, we believe Oregon legislators should oppose expansion of enrollments of public schools students into for-profit online schools that are paid for with public funds. I strongly urge the Legislature to enact stronger performance and fiscal accountability legislation to protect our public school students, and to resist the pressure of those that are hoping to increase their access to our students and to the scarce public funds.

As always, I appreciate all the work you do on behalf of our education system and continue to support expansion of quality CTE programs in Oregon public schools which prove to increase the graduation rates of our students.

Deborah Barnes
6330 SE Furnberg Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222
deborahbarnes@comcast.net