

Submitter: Jaimie Coppola  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1521

I strongly oppose SB 1521 and urge the House Committee on Education to oppose this bill as well. The role and purpose of the School Board is to establish and maintain the rules and policies that will be used to govern the school, as well as managing school superintendents to ensure that she/he uphold the responsibilities of the position. School boards are the essential check and balance for the community members who voted for them. This ensures that the voices in our communities - from those directly affected by these rules, policies, and responsibilities - are heard. SB 1521 severely limits school boards' abilities to oversee and manage the superintendent position, essentially cutting out the input from community and school members. Oregon is focused on equity in education, ensuring that every voice is heard. This bill removes the voice of the community, who through our elected school board members, are able to have input into how our children are taught and the rules and policies to which they will be held accountable. That is not equitable for anyone. School Boards should have the rights and power to terminate superintendents for not performing their jobs in a way that accounts for the effects on the local community children. Removing their power to do so enables the State (ODE, Governor, etc.) to remove all local control and dictate how our local schools should be run. That is not what this country is about - we are about freedom. Our community voices MUST be heard through our local school boards. I strongly urge you to oppose SB 1521. Enough is enough.