

Submitter: Mishael Tolan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1552

To whom it may concern,

I support passing Senate Bill 1552 and taking away the 3% cap for online learning. I have 2 children who are both in ORCA. I am in the process of adopting 2 to 3 more children, but my school district has already reached the 3% cap. This means that my adoptive kids will not be allowed to attend ORCA and our day to day lives will be very difficult.

Instead of focusing on one online program for all of my children, I will have to navigate across several different kinds (each online school has its own type of online setup). If the other program is not suited well for my kids, my only other option will be to place them within our district public school. This would be even more difficult because I will have to navigate getting them to and from school. Plus, I will not have the convenience of knowing exactly what they are learning so that I can help them focus on their areas of difficulty.

ORCA has been very good for my 2 kiddos. My son learned how to read and write within 2 months of kindergarten. He also learned how to type within the first semester of 2nd grade (I know many adults who do not know how to type).

I want the same quality of education for all of my kids, whether they will be related to me by blood or not. Every child should be allowed to succeed with online education. If parents are willing and able to support them in this endeavor, it is wrong for the local school district to be able to tell these parents "no."

Please put a stop to this and allow children to attend online learning programs of their and/or their parent's choice. Please pass Senate Bill 1552.