

Submitter: Allison Price Lang  
On Behalf Of: Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB767

I am respectfully writing to OPPOSE this bill. Our two young children attend Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School (LCMCS). This school finds itself in the difficult position of having to locate to a new building after the school's lease was terminated on short notice by the Gresham Barlow School District, which will be using the current LCMCS building for its own needs after the lease terminates in June.

LCMCS needs to find a new building in order to open for the next school year and has been diligently looking for an appropriate building in the Gresham Barlow School District.

Obviously, it is hard to find that on the short notice they were given. The only suitable building they have located is just slightly (approximately 1000 feet) outside of the Gresham Barlow District lines.

Under these circumstances, it would be nothing short of unconscionable for this bill to deprive the students of this school a new location to attend for the next school year, and to force the families of those children to have to decide on a new school for their child to attend in September, as well as to break up this established education institution and the community that is part of it.

This is the reality of what this bill would do to real children, families, educators, and communities.

LCMCS would like to turn this unfortunate situation into a positive impact by moving from a rural location that is inaccessible by public transportation to one that opens access for enrollment to underserved, more diverse populations in Rockwood and the surrounding area, while also continuing to serve our current families. Greater access & diversity is a key component in the current Strategic Plan.

As a Montessori trained teacher, administrator, home consultant and mother, I have been very pleased with this school. The teachers are very patient, hard working and go above and beyond! Both of our kids have thrived and excelled in this program. I strongly urge you to vote against this bill as it directly affects such a giant community.

Thank you.