

Submitter: Stefanie Baker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

Dear Education Committee,

I am writing to you both as the Assistant Principal and parent of 2 students at City View Charter School in Hillsboro, Oregon. I have spent the last 15 years committed to maintaining a safe, rigorous and welcoming school community.

City View has worked diligently for over a decade, trying to locate a space within Hillsboro School District boundaries that meets the unique requirements of a K-8 school, without success. We have outgrown the current facility we are renting and will not be able to stay. After years of searching we finally found a site that could be our forever home. A site that would allow our school to continue to provide 300+ Oregon students access to a free, high-quality, public-school education that they are all entitled to.

As the only public HSD charter school, of course it would be ideal for us to remain inside HSD boundaries however with our unique building restrictions, there are no other options for our school within district boundaries.

While I understand the reasoning for Senate Bill 767, it would kill City View's future by preventing us from operating in this new location simply because it resides roughly half a mile from the HSD district boundary line.

We need an amendment allowing for some flexibility in this bill. Perhaps allowing schools to function within a specified number of miles outside the sponsoring school district boundary line or ensuring that the school population majority is made up of the sponsoring districts students.

Next year will be City View's 20th year. This is an extremely important issue for the future of our school community, the 300 students, 40 staff members and countless family members and community partners. Please consider our school and others across the state in a similar situation when making your decision.

Thank you,

Stefanie Baker M.Ed
Assistant Director
City View Charter School