

Submitter: Cameron Patterson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

I am a voter and property tax payer in the Pinehurst School District in Jackson County where a large California- based charter school corporation is attempting to high jack our local district in the small rural Greensprings community in order to build a large charter school in nearby Ashland. This proposal has divided our community, and would leave our local school board and the small group of voters who elect them with the responsibility to oversee a large, out of district charter school institution, while leaving the school district where the charter is located without authority to govern compliance with state educational standards and the will of the voters in that district.

I am in support of the bill. Clarifying the legislative intent of Oregon charter school law must be enacted. Charter Schools were not designed to be approved by one district and placed in another district. No school district should be faced with rogue charters organizations sponsored by one district moving into others where the local school board has no authority over these charters. No sponsoring district should be involuntarily high jacked by a charter that would overwhelm its resources and adversely impact it's community. It was a mistake in an earlier bill that left out the word "virtual" and it needs to be fixed. Please pass Senate Bill 767.