

Submitter: Dave Willis
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

I have been a resident of Pinehurst School District 94 for over 40 years. I have known Pinehurst students, teachers, board members, and support staff who have cumulatively invested many decades (if not cumulatively combined centuries) of blood, sweat, and tears in the success of Pinehurst School's public education -- hard-won success that will be threatened if the needed corrective of SB767 does not become law. Without the passage of SB767, outside entities will be able to establish charter schools in any other Oregon public school districts without a vote in those other districts. It is more than ironic that the California corporation now attempting a functional hijacking of the Pinehurst School District in order to establish schools elsewhere without the vote of a local district are usually the first to trumpet/champion the need for "local control" in other contexts. The corporate entity (even if non-profit) now attempting to (ab)use Pinehurst as a vector into other Oregon school districts seriously risks (intends?) overwhelming little Pinehurst as its host. Pinehurst is only being used. It is doubtful that the current outside entity would/will be interested in little Pinehurst if they could not use Pinehurst to expand to other public school districts elsewhere without a vote in any of the local districts into which the outside entity wishes to expand. Without the passage of SB767, Pinehurst will continue be -- and other school districts will be -- preyed upon. Please vote to pass SB767. Please support SB767. Citizens preferring other than public education are free to start their own non-public private schools wherever they like.