

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Education

I write today in support of the intent of Senate Bill 414 to assure good air quality in Oregon public schools. As a homeowner in Eugene and grandfather of two young, immunocompromised granddaughters in the Oregon Public School System, I feel that ensuring that our schools are healthy places that support high-quality learning is extremely important for the future of Oregon. An important step toward that goal is to invest in proven technologies to maintain high indoor air quality, but we cannot understand the magnitude of the problem and focus state resources where they are needed most until we mandate regular measurements of air quality in our schools. This seems especially important in these troubled times when wildfires are increasing in frequency and associated harmful pollutants are at unhealthy levels in many parts of western and southern Oregon. Senate Bill 414 will, for example, put carbon dioxide monitors in classrooms to help parents and educators make informed decisions about ventilation and filtration, and to help parents make informed choices about their children's welfare.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our children.

Professor Kip Hodges  
Eugene, OR