

Submitter: Becky Snyder

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2872

February 28, 2023

Early Childhood and Human Services Committee

Oregon State House of Representatives

900 Court Street, N.E.

Salem, OR. 97301

Dear Chair Reynolds, Vice Chairs Scharf and Nguyen, and Members of the House Committee on Early Childhood and Human Services Committee:

My name is Becky Snyder and I have lived in Medford since 1981. I am writing in support of H.B. 2872 expanding the Dolly Parton Imagination Library throughout the state.

Literacy programs have greatly evolved since I received my degree in Elementary Education 50 years ago, but one thing that has remained a constant in that learning about the world around us begins at birth. What better way to introduce our babies and toddlers to this ongoing journey than through reading books to them. Not only is it a great bonding experience, but through this activity our children learn language, listening, and memory skills. Their learning is further enhanced by being exposed to colors, shapes, numbers, and letters in addition to emotions expressed.

Even though I have not personally been involved with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, I have had the opportunity to volunteer with programs to enhance literacy for children under the age of five, the target population for the Imagination Library. Key to the Imagination Library's success is the provision of a book each month for the children enrolled in the program. With the many expenses involved in raising children, having this monthly "gift" could make the difference for many children to have the reading experience in their lives. I firmly believe that all literacy outreach that can be provided serve as a fundamental building block for the educational success of our youth.

Thank you for your consideration,

Becky A. Snyder

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