



Friends of Outdoor School
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FriendsOfOutdoorSchool.org
IRS TAX ID# 27-4657069

March 2, 2023

Senate Human Services Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 606 Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act

Dear Chair Gelser Blouin and Committee Members:

Please join Friends of Outdoor School to support Senate Bill 606, the Oregon Nonprofit Modernization Act. Your support is critical to the health of the entire nonprofit sector in Oregon, including our partner camps and program providers, ourselves, and mostly importantly, the Oregon children and families that rely on Outdoor School.

At Outdoor School, students in fifth or sixth grade leave their school classrooms, moving into the outdoors to learn, immersed in nature, and led by skilled educators. Friends of Outdoor School is the key connection between Outdoor School and the larger community of individuals, businesses, community organizations, and agencies that support Oregon's statewide Outdoor School system. Our purpose is to connect, support, and advocate for all of Oregon's diverse students to learn at inclusive and accessible Outdoor School programs that contribute to educational development, inspire youth, promote personal growth, and embrace justice.

Outdoor School is provided in partnership between school districts, Education Service Districts, camps, and program providers. School districts and Education Service Districts contract with camps and program providers that are usually nonprofit, small, and often rural. SB 606 will ensure that these organizations are able to make Outdoor School possible for over 40,000 Oregon kids each year by making the contract system more efficient and less burdensome. Improving payment delivery while ensuring a task force can address other contracting inefficiencies will help nonprofit camps and program providers to continue to thrive and host thousands of Oregon kids at Outdoor School for generations to come.

Thank you for joining Friends of Outdoor School to support Senate Bill 606.

Sincerely,

Kim "Sierra" Silva,
Executive Director
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Our Vision: Outdoor School is a place where every child can belong.