

Submitter: Michael Lopes Serrao
On Behalf Of: Parkrose School District
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors
Measure: SB4

Good evening Chairs Bynum and Sollman, Vice-Chairs Knopp and Wallan, and Members of the Joint Committee

For the record my name is Michael Lopes Serrao, I proudly serve as superintendent of Parkrose School District in Northeast Portland.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support of SB 4 within an urban area like our community in Parkrose School District. I am here today to elevate the needs of our community and our kids.

Parkrose is a historically underserved community and if you were to tour our community you could clearly identify the opportunity gaps that exist for our students. While some opportunities are close by due to our geographical vicinity to the airport and the industries around it, our students lack opportunities to engage in local industries that can help them dream and innovate for their future.

Our students walk in a community that is plagued by gun violence, houselessness, and rising costs that hinder their ability to access college and career opportunities they deserve.

We have industrial zoning in our district that could not only expand high tech employment and training, but could also be an incubator for connecting our students to future opportunities. Right now, many of our students access internship opportunities, but these opportunities lie in other parts of the Metro area. 95% of the time, they are making the extra effort to travel, often by public transportation to access the chance to learn about fields of interest. We have students who travel across the city to OHSU to participate in an internship. Great opportunity, but the farther away from home, the more practical the challenge for our students.

Our local leadership can highlight an industrial property that is a current vacant lot across from our high school. Now it sits empty, and the site of violent protests two years ago. This vacant site is vandalized, a temporary shelter for houseless, a place to sell drugs. This is what our kids see every day. The lack of infrastructure and support is part of their lives.

I support SB4 because I can see what expanding semiconductor opportunities could provide in our neighborhood all within a short walk, bikeride, or commute. Visible opportunities for our students, partnerships with industry to expand our desperately needed opportunities to develop career technical skills. And most important, that our

state sees them. A state that sees that our Parkrose students need more in our schools, but also the community they live.