

**Bill:** House Bill 2767

**Position:** Support

**Name:** Carrie Bates – Sr. Outreach Manager

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, and members of the House Committee on Education:

I am writing today on behalf of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation in support of House Bill 2767, which will create a long-term, sustainable funding and governance model for recovery high schools in Oregon.

HB 2767 is the product of an interim interagency workgroup commissioned by HB 5202 in 2022 and offers a clear, collaborative path forward to expand, support and govern recovery high schools across the state.

Hazelden Betty Ford is the nation's largest nonprofit system of addiction treatment, mental health care, recovery resources and related prevention and education services. We have been a care provider in Oregon for more than two decades, with sites in Newberg and Beaverton and telehealth services that reach people in all corners of the state.

Nationally, Hazelden Betty Ford has seen firsthand the powerful impact of recovery high schools on our former patients and on families and communities across the United States. Recovery high schools provide a safe, supportive education for youth in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders. They are an essential part of the ecosystem in recovery-ready communities, and **it is critical that Oregon invests in these life-saving programs.**

I am a 3-time Olympic Gold Medalist in Swimming, but most importantly, a woman living in long term recovery from substance use disorder. After my own battle, I have dedicated my life to reducing the stigma of addiction and helping other find recovery. By providing a supportive educational setting for students who share a unique healing bond, recovery high schools empower sustained recovery and enable young people to stay on a positive trajectory that pays societal dividends for decades to come. **This legislation provides a cost-effective, proven way to invest in young people and Oregon's future.**

On behalf of the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, **I urge your support for House Bill 2767** and ask that you vote **YES** on this critically needed, thoughtfully created legislation.

Thank you,

Carrie Bates  
Senior Outreach Manager – Oregon/SW Washington  
Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation