

Bill: House Bill 2767 Position: Support Name: MJ

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

I am writing today in support of House Bill 2767, which will create a long-term, sustainable funding and governance model for recovery high schools in Oregon. Recovery high schools provide a safe, supportive education for youth in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders and it is critical that Oregon begin investing in these life-saving programs.

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.

I was addicted to drugs and substances for a long while. I didn't go to classes/ school, I never did my work. I was planning on not making it to 18 from where I was at. Now that I'm in harmony I feel I can have a future. I do believe there should be more schools like this. Harmony has helped me and continues to do so, along with so many others. In conclusion, I think having more schools like this would help other teens in need of it.

Oregon ranks last in the nation for substance use treatment and recovery support. This legislation provides a cost-effective and proven way to support adolescents in recovery as they work to gain their high school diploma.

On behalf of harmony academy, <u>I urge your support for House Bill 2767</u> and ask that you vote <u>VES</u> on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation.

Thank you,

MJ Chavez Creedon

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