

Bill: House Bill 2767 Position: Support Name: Savannah Norman

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.

My recovery is very important to me and affects a lot of my future decisions. I even today have trouble staying sober and this community has helped me keep myself in line. They offer support and help you keep yourself accountable. My recovery has been very difficult but has helped me especially with my education. I've learned more at this school for the 2 months I've been here than my whole other highschool years. My education helps me get to where I want to be in the future and hopefully get me a job this summer. The school bill is incredibly important to me and our community. The money we receive helps us do activities and afford food for everyone and helps our community stay together. Without this bill I believe things will fall apart in many different ways. Giving us the money we need is helping us stick together and work as a recovering community everyday.

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>YES</u> on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation.

Thank you,

