

Bill: House Bill 2767

Position: Support

Name: Scott Murphy

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

I am writing today to support 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 **Oregon must 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.

As an administrator, teacher, and citizen in Oregon, I have seen how addiction can affect our students. I also understand the struggle for recovery is complicated at times and that when a young person is on the road to recovery and goes back to the educational and social situations they were while using, it is even more challenging to remain on the path of recovery. I feel it is vital for these students to have a space to solidify their recovery among like-minded peers and staff. **I believe that will impact their future immensely and the impact they have on our state's economy, culture, and well-being.**

Oregon ranks 50th 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 diplomas.

I urge your support for House Bill 2767 and ask that you vote **YES** on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation.

Thank you,

Scott Murphy