

Submitter: Ajax Moody
On Behalf Of: All parents with children in Public Schools
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB409

I support this bill because Parents deserve to know what their children are learning for many reason, but mainly in order to help them with any assignments or projects. If my child is struggling with a certain learning tactic or subject and I know what it is and how it's being taught, I would be provide extra support or find tutoring or outside help. By making curriculum and instructional material available online, it would provide equal opportunity for all parents to be able to take an active role in their child's education. I understand that our Public School Curriculum is already required to be available to all parents, but often times that availability is limited to parents in that it can only be viewed or obtained by visiting the school, which is neither practical nor feasible for all parents, because like so many others, we work during the school day. There are several states which already require curriculum to be made available online so this isn't a new idea, its just new to Oregon. Public school parents are the primary stakeholders in our public education system and this system is funded by the taxes we generate. In Oregon our current reading curriculum has been shown to be far less effective than a science-based, phonics curriculum. Many parents in Oregon aren't aware of what and how their children are being taught because it's still not readily accessible. Curriculum transparency would extend the same access to course content that parents already have to schools' financial data, student performance scores, graduation and dropout rates, and enrollment processes. In closing I urge you to support this bill. - Ajax Moody