

Submitter: Don Powers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure: HB4161

Based on the research evidence from education choice programs in other states, policymakers and taxpayers should anticipate that school choice programs made available to every K-12 student in Oregon would at least correlate with improved student achievement and lower crime rates among students who access and also correlate with better academic outcomes for students who remain in Oregon public schools.

“Nothing in the Act may ever limit the independence or autonomy of any person or entity receiving or using distributions into education savings accounts created under the Act to provide education to students nor make the actions of such person or entitles the actions of this state. Neither the government, the Department of Education, State Board of Education, nor any state agency (or nonprofit organization contracting with any state agency) may regulate the education programs, curricula, teaching qualifications or admission policies of any person or entity receiving or using distributions under the Act.”

Where IP6 allows for a monthly distribution option, HB 4161 transfers a lump sum into a designated savings account in the same manner as IP6, but doesn't contain the wording that funds cannot be used as a leverage towards private schools or homeschools.