



123 NE 3rd Ave.
Suite 208
Portland, OR 97232

betteroregon.org

January 27, 2025

Chair Courtney Neron
Vice-Chair April Dobson
Vice-Chair Emily McIntire
Members of the House Education Committee

RE: HB 2140 – K-12 Current Service Level (CSL)

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Dobson, Vice-Chair McIntire, and members of the House Education Committee,

On behalf of Foundations for a Better Oregon, I am writing to express support for **House Bill 2140, to increase transparency in public education budgeting, improve the Current Service Level (CSL) process, and promote financial stability for Oregon's K-12 system.**

Foundations for a Better Oregon (FBO) is a project of Oregon's five largest foundations, working to ensure Oregon supports every child to learn, grow, and thrive. We believe a robust and successful K-12 system requires sufficient resources, and Oregon has made great strides over the past decade through significant public education funding increases through the State School Fund and the Student Success Act.

While **we know more resources are necessary, resources alone cannot guarantee successful outcomes and positive experiences for all Oregon children.** Student outcomes remain largely stagnant, and are too often predicted by a student's race, ethnicity, socio-economic or disability status, or simply where they live or go to school.

Research makes it clear that **high-performing education systems require consistency, focus, collaboration, and accountability.** For too long, Oregon has been mired in a compliance framework that is not only ineffective, but also overly burdensome to educators and school leaders.

With a new CSL creating a strong foundation, now is the time to align around a clear system of expectations and supports that can accelerate improvement in all 197 school districts. By continuing to **honor local context and community strengths while also building a backstop of state accountability,** we can ensure all Oregon's children have access to a high-quality, inclusive, and community-centered public education.

We ask the Committee to support HB 2140, an essential step to supporting all Oregon youth to learn, grow, and thrive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Whitney Grubbs'.

Whitney Grubbs
Executive Director
Foundations for a Better Oregon

