

Submitter: Karynn Fish
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB933

Testimony in Support of SB 933 and SB 934

Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair Weber, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Karynn Fish. My son is a 7th grader at NeahKahNie Middle School. I urge your support for SB 933 and SB 934 to improve transparency, accountability, and equitable access to TAG services in Oregon.

SB 933 strengthens TAG data and reporting, but its impact extends beyond TAG students. Currently, district report cards only show achievement scores by income and ethnicity, providing a limited view of student progress. SB 933 requires tracking student growth over time, disaggregated by grade, ability level, and demographics, ensuring a more complete picture of learning. It also requires reporting on TAG services and funding, making it easier to assess whether students are receiving appropriate support.

Even with Oregon's broader TAG identification rules, many high-achieving and potentially high-achieving students—especially children with disabilities, those who are learning English, and kids from low-income families—can be missed by restrictive screening practices. SB 934 clarifies and strengthens the referral process, ensuring that parents, caregivers, and community members, as well as educators, can refer students for TAG screening. It also requires districts to accept referrals year-round and provide screenings as needed, helping capture students who arrive mid-year or need different assessments.

We can't improve what we don't measure, and we can't serve students we don't identify. SB 933 and SB 934 are needed refinements to ensure that TAG students are both seen and supported in Oregon's education system.

Please support SB 933 and SB 934.

Respectfully,
Karynn Fish