

Submitter: Jacek Haciał PsyD
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2729

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2729 (CORRECTED bill number from earlier submission)
February 5, 2025

Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the House Committee on Education,

I am Dr. Jacek (Jack) Haciał, a retired Licensed Psychologist and mental health program administrator now operating a consultation service, DynamicChanges LLC. I am writing in support of HB 2729.

The School-Base Health Centers (SBHC) are part of a well-developed and structured program that provide support, healing, and wellness in a welcoming environment. The standards for SBHC's provide a safe structure youth find accessible. The model also provides youth with opportunities to learn self-advocacy and organizational and system decision-making by participating in Oregon and SBHC committee/advisory processes. Such participation not only furthers their appreciation of democratic self-governance, but also produces personal growth and strengthening.

Given their advantages, it is important for Oregon to provide SBHC's the financial inflation-adjustments necessary to sustain gains made, and hopefully set the stage for expansion to locations which are gradually learning about the benefits of existent SBHC's. This model helps Oregon to make advances in the quality of care for its youth.

Please pass HB 2729.

Thank you.

Jacek (Jack) Haciał, Psy.D., Director
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