

March 10, 2025

Dear Oregon Legislators,

On behalf of the Beaverton School District, we would like to encourage your support of the following house bills:

- HB3321: Primary prevention state strategy to prevent the onset of substance use
- HB3375: Youth substance use continuum of care
- HB2502: School-based substance use prevention study, recovery schools, more

It is our position that Oregon needs a systematic approach to education, prevention, identification and treatment regarding substance use in school-aged children and teens. Too often, families do not have access to life-saving treatment when faced with a child suffering from substance use.

In the Beaverton School District, we have seen the positive impact of drug education. In 2019-2020, our district lost several students and recent graduates to fentanyl poisoning. In response, the district implemented an aggressive anti-fentanyl campaign called <u>Fake & Fatal:</u> <u>One Pill Can Kill</u>, targeting middle and high school students, in addition to their parents. This program is now part of our yearly health curriculum. Since its adoption, we have not lost any students to fentanyl, to our knowledge; we are confident that every secondary student in our schools has heard the message about fentanyl's deadly consequences.

Knowledge is power. Please consider adopting HB 2502, 3321 and 3375 so that all Oregon children are better equipped to combat drug abuse.

Sincerely,

Shellie Bailey-Shah Public Communications Officer

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