

Submitter: Caroline Bleckmann  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2448

I am writing as a parent of a child who receives Special Education Services in Portland Public Schools, and also as a PPS employee and PAT member. I am begging legislators to seize this opportunity to lift the cap on SPED funding. I see the harm done to our students every day by the minimally adequate (at best) standard of care that my caring and highly qualified colleagues are forced to provide. I worry for my own child even as I'm better equipped to advocate for him, and I see students far more vulnerable than him slip through the cracks. They languish, drop out, or head straight onto the school-to-prison pipeline. Our children are so much more than a bottom line. And the bottom line is that investing in these kids benefits us all in the short and long term.