

Submitter:

Shih Yu

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3444

As a parent of an Oregon public charter school student, I am writing today in support of House Bill 3444.

At its core, the disparity of funding between public charter vs. public schools is an issue of equity. For example, when ALL public school students within Oregon public school districts are able to receive free lunch this year, my child along with their charter peers are denied such access by the district because of their public charter status. When resources are only provided less than half of what's needed, teachers, students and parents unavoidably need to find additional time to solve the funding issue, while this time could have been dedicated to instruction, multi-tiered student intervention, and much more. We, the parents, fulfill our tax duties. Our property tax dollars go into supporting public education. Why then, are we not granted equal access (charter students only receiving 48% of what public school peers are given) to this public funding? Parents and charter school staff alone should not be the ones to address this issue of equity but policy makers and school districts. Change needs to happen top down to show leaders actually believe in what they preach.

Please vote yes on HB 344!