

Submitter: Chelsea Murphy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Chelsea Murphy, and I am the parent of a creative child who thrives in a charter school environment. I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3444, which would help address the significant funding disparities faced by charter schools in Oregon.

My daughter flourishes in a smaller class size, with more access to exploratory learning and the arts. These are exactly the kinds of opportunities that help her grow and succeed. However, I am concerned about the underfunding of charter schools. Charter schools receive only 48 cents on the dollar compared to district-run schools, limiting the resources available for students, teachers, and classroom materials. They are responsible for their own operations and facilities, yet receive far less funding than district schools.

HB 3444 is a necessary step toward correcting this. By increasing access to the State School Fund and other funding streams, this bill would help ensure charter schools have the resources needed to continue offering high-quality education and innovative learning environments. It also allows for transportation services, which would make it easier for families to access charter schools, especially for younger students.

Charter schools provide valuable options for families, often focusing on innovative curriculum models and serving historically underserved populations. HB 3444 would ensure these schools can continue to thrive, offer equitable opportunities, and strengthen Oregon's education system as a whole.

I urge you to support HB 3444. It's a crucial step in providing all students, regardless of school type, the resources they deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Murphy

503-833-2459

Parent of a City View Charter School Student