

Submitter: Jasmine Fullman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

Jasmine Fullman
Board Member, Portland Village School House Committee On Education Oregon
State Senate
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and members of the
Committee,

As a board member of Portland Village School, I urge you to support House Bill 3444
to ensure that students in Oregon's public charter schools receive the fair and
equitable funding they deserve.

Portland Village School, like many public charter schools across Oregon, plays a
critical role in our education system by providing families with a high-quality, tuition-
free public school option that meets the diverse needs of students. Our school follows
a Waldorf-inspired curriculum, integrating academics with the arts, nature, and
hands-on learning, which has been life-changing for many of our students—
especially those who were not thriving in traditional school settings.

Despite our commitment to fostering academic success, Oregon's outdated funding
model severely shortchanges public charter school students. Currently, charter
schools receive only 80% of the State School Fund (SSF) per-pupil allocation, and
we lack access to the local, state, and federal funding streams that district-run
schools rely on. A recent ECONorthwest report found that Oregon charter schools
receive less than half the funding per student compared to district schools—a
disparity that has only grown over the past decade as enrollment in charter schools
has increased.

At Portland Village School, this funding gap is DEEPLY felt. Unlike district schools,
we must pay for our own facilities, which strains our already limited budget. We do
not receive transportation funding, leaving many families struggling to access our
school. Additionally, we lack equitable access to funding for student support services,
making it difficult to provide the same level of resources that district-run schools offer.

Passing HB 3444 would help correct these inequities by:

- Increasing public charter school funding to 95% of the per-student allocation from

the State School Fund.

- Providing charter school students access to local, state, and federal education dollars, just as students in district-run schools receive.
- Allowing charter schools to offer transportation services to students within the district and receive reimbursement for those services.

Oregon's public charter schools are an essential part of the state's education landscape, giving families choices and ensuring that all students have access to learning environments where they can succeed. However, without fair funding, we are asked to do more with significantly less.

On behalf of the students, families, and educators at Portland Village School, I urge you to support HB 3444 and take a stand for equitable public education funding for all students in Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jasmine Fullman
Board Member, Portland Village School