

Submitter: kasey Cooper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3444, a critical piece of legislation that ensures equitable funding for Oregon's public charter schools. As an educator with ten years of experience working in Title I schools, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact that charter schools have on students from diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Charter schools provide families with valuable public school choices that best meet their children's individual learning needs. However, despite serving the same student populations as district schools, charter schools continue to receive significantly less per-pupil funding. This funding gap limits our ability to provide essential resources, competitive teacher salaries, and high-quality educational programs that help our students thrive.

At my current school, we have worked diligently to support underserved students through data-driven interventions, professional development, and targeted instructional support. However, the inequitable funding structure creates barriers that hinder our ability to fully meet the needs of our students. HB 3444 addresses this disparity by ensuring that charter schools receive fair funding to deliver the high-quality education that all Oregon students deserve.

Ensuring that charter schools receive equitable funding is not just about fairness; it is about investing in the success of Oregon's students. I urge you to pass HB 3444 to support the thousands of families who rely on charter schools as a vital part of our public education system.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kasey Cooper