

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:

My name is Naomi and I am an 8th-grade student at Logos Public Charter School. I am writing today in support of House Bill 3444. I am writing to ask for your support of House Bill 3444 because I love my school, and I believe all students should have the same opportunities to learn and grow both socially and academically.

My school is the right place for me because I feel as though I can learn how I learn best. Academically, Logos is known for helping each student learn how they learn. For example, some students learn better in a classroom with a teacher and their peers, while others learn better at home in front of a computer with an online curriculum. Logos allows me to choose how I want to learn according to what is best for me. With the classes I am taking, I am at Logos two days a week. Studies show that being at school five days a week makes it very hard for students to keep up with homework, sports, socialization, and even just simply taking care of themselves. ("Five-day school weeks are unhealthy")

Before attending Logos, I attended a traditional school. I was not given nearly the same amount of opportunities as I am given now. At my previous school, I had no friends and was frustrated at the lack of care teachers had for my situation. Now that I attend a charter school, I have lots of friends and have not experienced any bullying. I feel as though if I was being bullied at my charter school and asked for help from my teachers, they would have lots of compassion for my situation. I am overall really happy with my school and wouldn't choose anywhere else. For all these reasons, charter schools deserve just as much money, if not more than traditional schools.

Everyone in my school has their own story for why a public charter school was the best fit for them. I hope you will take the time to read some of the stories that have been shared with you. When my classmates and I heard that Oregon's public charter school students like us were being funded at not even half as much as the kids in other public schools, we felt frustrated because my school has done a great job of making school a welcoming place. I feel very accepted at my school and enjoy having a place where I can go and not feel like I am being judged.

Passing HB 3444 is important to me because I am worth more than 48 cents on the dollar. I hope you can support this bill and make charter school funding fair for everyone.

Please vote yes on HB 3444.

Thank you,

Naomi

8th Grade

Logos Public Charter School