Submitter: Nicole Gramse

On Behalf Of: Bend International School

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

Hi my name is Nicole Gramse and for the past 10 years my children have been at Bend International School which is a charter school. We chose and keep choosing to keep them here for the small classroom sizes, more individualized attention, focus on learning in a way that each child can grow into their best self, and charters allow my children to learn in a way that appeals to children and incorporates more practical application.

All public school students in Oregon deserve the same investment in their education, whether attending a public charter school or public district-run school. Right now students in public charter schools receive 48% of the funding that their peers in district-run school receive.

Our state's founding and now outdated charter school legislation is not in line with our state's current priorities. It restricts funding for early education and intervention, as well as investment in our historically underserved communities.

My family and I ask that HB 3444 be referred to committee and that they support its passage.