

Submitter: Lauren MacKenzie

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

I am a PPS parent and PTA board member, and I oppose SB 5516 because I believe it is insufficient to provide the level of funding that our struggling schools and students need. I appreciate the governor's recent focus on accountability and fully support that approach. However, we cannot expect improved outcomes if the state isn't even funding our schools at the level that their own formula suggests would lead to improvement. At minimum, the State of Oregon should be funding schools to the recommended QEM levels. The under-performance of our students and schools as compared to national standards is frankly an embarrassment. I also think it will lead to hardships for our state economy down the road when we lack well-educated young people in the workforce. I know that everyone in Oregon wants the best for every student, and wants our young people to have brighter futures through a quality education. Please vote no on Senate bill 5516 and work on increasing funding to schools to achieve these common goals.

Thank you,
Lauren MacKenzie