

Submitter: Babs Vanelli

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB749

Hello, my name is Babs Vanelli, 76 year old life long Portlander, currently living in NE Portland.

I have followed the progression of Participatory Budgeting for several years now on the

City level and now on the State Level via SB 749.

I am grateful to Senator Gorsek for sponsoring this Bill and to co-sponsors Reps. Hoa Nguyen and Ricki Ruiz.

The time is right here, right now to include citizens in the formation of Budgets in Portland

and thruout the State. I have been a life long advocate for educating our students in the importance of taking an active role in their City and State. SB 749 is a step towards reaching that goal.

I implore you to keep this Bill moving thru the Legislature towards ultimate passage. We cannot do much on the Federal Level given the likely elimination of the Dept. of Education BUT we can stand tall and proud as Oregonians to protect and improve the system in our State.

Thank you.

Babs Vanelli