

Submitter: Rokaya Wehbey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2583

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 2583. As an administrator at a public charter school, I have seen firsthand the incredible impact that charter schools have on students and families. However, the persistent funding gaps with grants such as SIA places our public charter school community in some deficiencies.

Public charter schools, including online and alternative education programs, provide essential learning environments for students who may need a different setting due to schedule flexibility, academics, social, physical, or mental health needs. These schools serve as vital options for students and families seeking more personalized educational experiences. Many of the students we serve were unable to be successful in a traditional school environment and with the alternative learning setting, continued innovation, personalized educational opportunities for our students, and emphasizing equity and autonomy ultimately transforms the lives and educational experience of our students.

By passing House Bill 2583, we can ensure charter school students receive the resources they deserve. This will help in reducing academic disparities, meeting students' mental and behavioral health needs, providing access to academic courses, allowing teachers and staff sufficient time to collaborate, and developing strategies to meet the students needs.

At my school, we feel the grant funding shortfall each day. We face these challenges in inadequate student support services, limited course and curriculum offerings, and minimal learning resources.

Every student in Oregon deserves a well-funded education, no matter what public school they attend. On behalf of our teachers, staff, and most importantly, our students, I hope you'll support House Bill 2583 and help us close these grant funding gaps.

Thank you,  
Rokaya Wehbey  
Elementary Associate Principal  
Metro East Web Academy