



April 7, 2025

Chair Courtney Neron  
Vice-Chair Emily McIntire  
Vice-Chair April Dobson  
Members of the House Education Committee

**RE: HB 2009 – K-12 Accountability**

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chair McIntire, Vice-Chair Dobson, and members of the House Education Committee,

As members of the [Oregon Partners for Education Justice \(OPEJ\)](#), we would like to thank you for the opportunity to express our **strong support for HB 2009**.

OPEJ represents a cross-cultural network of community-based organizations, culturally specific service providers, and education advocates who are championing an inclusive, equitable, racially just, and community-centered public education system for Oregon. Since first testifying on this bill, we have seen meaningful amendments that address key questions around its implementation. These changes clarify how the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) will establish a coherent and responsive accountability system that builds upon Oregon’s 2019 Student Success Act.

HB 2009 will advance a promising plan for K-12 investment and accountability by using common evidence-based metrics to track student outcomes and ensure the state has the authority and effective tools to provide targeted supports for school districts when needed. These are critical steps to accelerate improvement and ensure school districts who struggle the most are bolstered by stronger partnerships between the state and local communities, not punished. **HB 2009 will ensure Oregon doubles down on delivering a quality education for all, especially children who are not getting what they need to learn and thrive from the current system.**

**As we seek to close the achievement gap between the State of Oregon and other states, we must also close achievement gaps that have persisted for students of color, low-income students, and students with disabilities.** The changing federal education landscape makes this ever more important. With the recent changes to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and looming federal cuts, Oregon must build our own robust system of accountability to support our historically underserved students. HB 2009 helps meet this moment by requiring school districts to utilize disaggregated student data to establish growth targets across statewide metrics and develop equitable policies and programs to improve student outcomes. This data-driven approach ensures Oregon can independently track common metrics and close achievement gaps, regardless of federal uncertainty.

Given our current challenges, **now is the time for Oregon to take this opportunity and be clear and resolute: Accountability means that student success isn't left to chance.** There must be clear expectations and a system of support in place to deliver quality learning and experiences regardless of student identity, zip code, or circumstances.

**We urge the committee to support HB 2009.** This legislation is an essential step toward advancing a more just education system for Oregon's children.

Sincerely,

**Oregon Partners for Education Justice**

Adelante Mujeres	Latino Network
Arts in Education of the Gorge	NAYA Action Fund
APANO	Oregon Business Council
Capaces Leadership Institute	Oregon Coalition of Community Charter Schools
Center for Black Excellence	Oregon Community Foundation
Central Oregon Disability Support Network	Oregon MESA
Children's Institute	Project LEDO
EUVALCREE	REAP, Inc.
Friends of the Children - Portland	Self Enhancement, Inc.
Foundations for a Better Oregon	Stand for Children, Oregon
IRCO	Urban League of Portland
KairosPDX	

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**ENCLOSED:** [Oregon Partners for Education Justice 2025 Legislative Agenda](#)