FOUNDATIONS FOR A BETTER OREGON

April 7, 2025

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

RE: HB 2009 – Renewing Oregon's K-12 Accountability System

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

As the Policy Director at Foundations for a Better Oregon (FBO), I am honored to provide my enthusiastic support for HB 2009. FBO is a partnership of five major Oregon philanthropic organizations committed to ensuring Oregon's systems support every child to learn, grow, and thrive.

HB 2009 reflects the deep collaboration and continuous co-creation between the Governor's office, Oregon Department of Education and key stakeholders which has resulted in the revised and amended bill we have in front of us now in -4.

Through statewide, independent, and nonpartisan public opinion polling, we have learned that **Oregonians understand and overwhelmingly support the connection between K-12 accountability and student success.** Oregonians want schools to set and reach goals to improve academic achievement for students, and they want the K-12 system to take an active role in providing the guidance and support schools need to reach their goals.

This bill also appreciates the shared nature of K-12 accountability by recognizing that the **Oregon Department of Education must also commit to improvement by completing a robust streamlining of hundreds of K-12 regulations, data collections, and grant programs.** Removing the burden of redundancy allows frontline educators and administrators to focus on what matters most: improving student outcomes.

Now is the time to translate public dollars into success for Oregon's students and the future of our state.

We urge the committee to vote and move HB 2009 -4 forward today.

Sincerely,

Anna Higgins

Anna Higgins

Anna Higgins Director of Policy & Systems Strategy Foundations for a Better Oregon

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