

Submitter: Sophia Hampton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4112

I wish to express my support for HB 4112.

Research and anecdotal evidence show how important outdoor and environmental education is for students, and I am deeply concerned about the budget cuts that will put outdoor learning opportunities in jeopardy for young people across our state. I am the benefactor of such education and am deeply saddened to think of all the students who would be impacted by the loss of an experience learning outside their classroom and interacting with the incredible land, plants, and animals that make our state the beautiful place that it is.

I'm also concerned for the many sites that partner with Outdoor School and how they will be impacted by a lack of funding. Camp Magruder is one such site, and it is very special to me as it is the place I grew up attending camp, the place where my parents met, and the place my grandmother attended camp. Camp Magruder's partnership with Outdoor School has allowed them to stay running and to host Outdoor School students at our wonderful Oregon coast, and I know a loss of this partnership as a result of budget cuts would be devastating for the camp.

Again, I urge for the passing of HB 4112 for the benefit of all the young people in Oregon. Thank you.