

Submitter: Amy Kepler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4112

Chair Hudson, Vice-chair McIntire, and Members of the Committee,

As an Oregonian who has benefited greatly from my personal experience with Outdoor School, and as a parent who hopes my own children and their generation of peers will continue to reap its benefits, I strongly support the proposal to restore Outdoor School funding.

I attended Howard Outdoor school as a sixth grader at Holy Family Elementary, was a six-time high school student leader during my years at St. Mary's Academy, and now serve on the Friends of Outdoor School Board. Outdoor School is a uniquely Oregon experience that helps all kids thrive, provides a sense of environmental stewardship and belonging for our beautiful state, and provides incredible leadership and employment opportunities for teens and young adults. And, it's one of the best tools we have to bridge the rural/urban divide.

Voters expressed their desire to fund Outdoor School when they voted to pass Ballot Measure 99. Please honor voter's wishes, and continue to fund Outdoor School.

Thank you,
Amy Kepler