

Submitter: Jennifer Prince
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4112

Chair Hudson, Vice Chairs McIntire and Dobson, Members of the Committee,

I'm writing to extend my heart-felt thanks to you for your bill to restore \$6 million to Outdoor School. As you know, Outdoor School is already reeling from the 20% cuts the Legislature made in June of 2025. The program I work for, Multnomah Education Service District, has been forced to cut our program from a 6 day/5 night program to a 4 day/3 night program. While this means reduction in pay for both year-round and seasonal staff, it also means a reduction of revenue for the sites who host our program and the food service companies who deliver food for the program.

The greatest impact however is placed upon the children, both the 6th grade students and the high school students who serve as our Student Leaders. Our 6th graders only get half of the science field study instruction that they used to get in a full-week program and our high school leaders arrive only two hours before the 6th graders which doesn't leave adequate time for welcoming them into the site space or training them to be leaders in both the parenting role and teaching role they are about to assume.

Voters were clear in 2016 when they directed 4% of Lottery revenue for kids to attend Outdoor School. I am hopeful that your bill, with the support of the other 45 cosponsors, will pass through the upcoming short session and we can begin to restore our almost 60 year tradition that is Outdoor School.

With green trees around us and blue skies above,
Jennifer "Canyon" Prince
41029 SE Louden Rd
Corbett, OR 97019