

Hello,

My name is Joe. I am a resident of Beaverton. I own a small business in Portland and Tigard. As a businessman in the state, I depend on the public education system to educate and prepare a population so when they enter the workforce they are entering productive members of our society. Additionally, my fiancée is a 5th-grade teacher in the Beaverton School District which has allowed me to become acutely aware of the crisis that our public education system is in. This is why I am writing in support of HB 2019, Student Success Act.

My fiancée comes home daily to inform me of the amount of disrupted learning that is occurring in her classroom as well as classrooms of her friends and colleagues. I have comforted her when she comes home in tears after being physically attacked by deregulated students in her classroom. Due to the never-ending budget cuts to our schools over the past 30 years, there is often no one to come to help our students and staff in their times of need. I have also seen her come home defeated after the 6 weeks of state testing she has to administer to her 10-year-olds in her class.

Looking ahead to the future of my business and the economy in Oregon I know that we are soon to be in dire straits if we don't step up and fully fund education in Oregon. We will not have a successful and productive society if we don't step up and invest in our future and invest in our students. I urge you to support and vote yes for HB 2019. Thank you.

Regards,
Joe S
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