



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Joint Statement on Passage of Critical Education Bills

Salem, Ore. -- With the passage of a historic package of bills aimed at improving Oregon's statewide education system, the Oregon Legislature made a strong statement that this state can and will do a better job of educating its students. These bills have the potential to improve the governance and efficiency of our school systems, to better prepare and support our classroom teachers, and to give students more pathways to success. We applaud the commitment of the Governor and leaders of both parties in working to reach a compromise on these important bills.

Throughout the session, the Chalkboard Project, the Oregon Business Association, Stand for Children and a small group of district superintendents worked in concerted support of positive changes to our education system, and it is our belief that Oregonians will be well served by this legislation. There is much more work to be done if we are to truly transform our education system into one that can meet the needs of our state and our students, but these bills represent important first steps in a brighter, more hopeful direction.

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The Oregon Business Association provides bipartisan, statewide business leadership that strives to ensure Oregon's continued economic competitiveness. www.oba-online.org.

The Chalkboard Project is a non-partisan nonprofit working to unite Oregonians to make our K-12 public schools among the nation's best. www.chalkboardproject.org.

Stand for Children is an innovative, grassroots child advocacy organization whose mission is to use the power of grassroots action to help all children get the excellent public education and strong support they need to thrive. www.stand.org.