



NEWS

Oregon Legislature - House Democratic Caucus

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House votes to create Summer Learning Grants for highest-need schools

SALEM – Today the Oregon House of Representatives supported a targeted grant program to improve student achievement at some of the highest need schools in Oregon.

The Summer Learning Grants created by House Bill 4117 will fund programs at up to 19 of Oregon's high-poverty, low-performing schools.

"We know that the summer learning gap is a major driver of inequality in our education system," said Rep Shemia Fagan (D – Clackamas/East Portland), who introduced HB 4117. "Students with parents who are able to read to them, take them to OMSI, and otherwise further their education excel, while kids without these opportunities fall further behind. This bill will take a targeted step to close that gap."

HB 4117 appropriates \$500,000 to fund summer programs that will add at least 60 hours of learning time for over 5,000 of Oregon's most vulnerable students.

"I'm proud that we passed the largest K-12 budget in Oregon history last year, but we still have work to do to rebuild from a decade of underfunding," said Rep. Gorsek (D – Troutdale), a chief co-sponsor of the bill. "This bill focuses on the right priorities by making targeted investments in Oregon's students who need it the most."

HB 4117 passed the House unanimously and now heads to the Senate for consideration.

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