

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

June 6, 2025

Obadiah Rutledge
Secretary of the Senate

RE: Vote Explanation for Senate Bill 141 B

Dear Secretary Rutledge,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my vote explanation for Senate Bill 141 B. As legislators representing Oregon's 197 school districts, we have witnessed both success stories and struggles within our public schools. Data from assessments shows we have much work to do, and SB 141 B represents an important step forward.

Oregon's Department of Education has not historically taken a leadership role on school district accountability. They have lacked the authority to do so. SB 141 B establishes shared accountability between the Oregon Department of Education, school districts, and educators. This is not a punitive measure, but rather provides struggling districts with support, coaching, and targeted assistance. We know that targeted investments yield targeted results, and our talented, dedicated educators deserve the tools to help students succeed.

Accountability in K-12 public education ensures all students receive quality education and taxpayer resources are used effectively. Clear standards and regular progress measurement, help identify excelling schools and those needing support, enabling informed decisions about instruction, resources, and policy. Districts also advocated to streamline grant processes. SB 141 B creates incentives for continuous improvement while highlighting achievement gaps that demand action.

Oregon has the shortest school year in the nation, our students miss approximately one year of education compared to Washington students at graduation. We must support our districts in providing the best educational opportunities. When implemented thoughtfully, with appropriate support systems, SB 141 B fosters a culture of high expectations and data-driven decision making that benefits students, teachers, and communities.

For these reasons, I voted in support of Senate Bill 141 B.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Janeen Sollman'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Senator Janeen Sollman
Senate District 15