

JANEEN SOLLMAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 15



OREGON STATE SENATE

April 14, 2023

Lori L. Brocker
Secretary of the Senate

RE: Vote Explanation for Senate Bill 707

Dear Secretary Brocker,

On Thursday, April 13th, Senate Republicans made a motion to pull SB 707 from the Senate Education Committee without following the appropriate legislative process. They did this with a total of seven bills back-to-back.

As a mom of educators, grandma, and former school board member, I take the safety and well-being of our students and staff very seriously. My vote against this procedural motion was not a vote against the merits of SB 707 or any of the other bills Senate Republicans attempted to remove from committee.

Making a motion to move a bill directly from committee is a procedural maneuver that undermines our democratic and legislative process. It advances bills before they have been properly vetted by experts and the public. By attempting to bypass the legislative committee process, we are essentially shutting the door to the public. When bills are in committee, Oregonians are able to weigh in about how these policies could affect their communities and their everyday lives. That won't happen if they bypass the committee process.

Making a motion to move a bill directly from committee to the floor is also fiscally irresponsible. No financial impact statements have been analyzed or posted. We have no way of knowing how these bills will impact state, county, or local budgets or Oregonians' hard earned tax dollars. Again, I voted no on the procedural motion to pull the bill from committee (the process), not the merits of the actual bill (the content) itself.

Thank you,

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