

SB 819 is an attempt as the Carrier stated to get the state and districts to “follow the law” regarding disabled students. The US Constitutional and Oregon Constitution require equal treatment in education as Senators stated on the floor. Given the Constitution is violated in the legislature every day, it is hypocrisy to drum roll the ‘constitution,’ when providing zero enforcement in the proposed law. As was stated on the floor, “bill after bill” has been brought forward to solve the problem. Being the parent of a child that would have been under this law, I know the Attorney General and other government lawyers have protected the state and districts. My wife and I got zero ‘government’ support so we pull our child out of school. Government lawyers are in the court today per a Senator’s statement. This is the problem. The state and districts hide behind the Attorney General. This bill will change nothing. The state will continue to hide behind the same Attorney General and other government lawyers. Parents with disabled children cannot afford to challenge the enforcement of old laws, let alone, parents have no money to enforce this proposed law. The school pays nothing in lawyer fees in any lawsuit. The AG or insurance pay. If we want to fix the problem, then it needs teeth. It needs to block the Attorney General from defending the Oregon Department of Education and Teacher Standards and Practices Commission plus intervening with other government lawyers at the district level. Block Attorney General funds from defending the violations. The failure of the enforcement of the law to date is the fault of the Oregon Attorney General. I hope the House will put in real enforcement such as a violation, right of action, block the AG from defending violations, or direct path to a judicial decision. Amend the bill in the House.