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OREGON SENATE REPUBLICANS PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 5, 2021 Contact: Dru Draper

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Senate Republican Caucus Signs Education Freedom Pledge

SALEM, Ore. – Today the Senate Republican Caucus came together in unison to fight for Oregon's students and parents. The Education Freedom Pledge, put together by the non-partisan American Federation for Children, promotes policies that support educational opportunities and parental rights in education, including having their voices heard at school board meetings.

"Senate Republicans are unified in our support of parents and students in education," said Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp (R-Bend). "Education is about them and their needs – not the government. All students, regardless of ZIP code, should have access to a learning environment that works for them. Parents should have a say in how their children are taught. That is not controversial, and as a caucus, we won't shy away from advocating for bold, real education reform in Oregon."

Senate Republicans were the first legislators in Oregon to publically sign the pledge. As a caucus, they have consistently introduced legislation to prioritize students over a failing education system in Oregon.

Last session, Senate Republicans introduced legislation to increase the number of students who legally could attend virtual charter schools, in addition to a <u>suite</u> of other school choice measures. They voted to abolish school district boundaries, which would allow children to choose any public school in the state that best meets their needs.