



February 3, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Hudson, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee:

We are the 15th Night Youth Action Council, based in Eugene and Springfield. Our goal is to identify youth-led solutions to fill resource gaps and support fellow youth in our community who are experiencing homelessness, often as unaccompanied minors. Many of the youth on our council have firsthand experience with navigating school and life on our own, while also trying to figure out where to sleep at night.

As a Youth Action Council, we write today in strong support of HB 4149.

As young people with lived experience, we know firsthand that school stability is the hardest thing to maintain when everything else is changing. Students experiencing homelessness face enrollment and attendance barriers when they are moving frequently, staying in motels or with other people, or sleeping in places not meant for habitation.

One of our current council members is a senior in high school, working hard to graduate from school on time. A month ago she was kicked out of her home in Springfield and the only housing available to her was with a friend's aunt in Veneta. Each day, she drives 27 miles to school. 27 miles. Just to get to school. She relies on transportation support, through the form of gas gift cards from her McKinney Vento Liaison, to ensure that she can get to school each day and graduate with her class. Without that support, she says that she would have likely dropped out.

We support this bill because it strengthens practical protections that prevent educational disruption, including:

- Immediate enrollment even when youth lack documents during a crisis;
- School placement stability so youth can remain connected to their teachers, peers, and services;
- Transportation supports so school stability is possible in reality; and
- Clear dispute resolution so families and youth can resolve issues quickly.

To us, this is a common-sense bill that will reduce barriers, support student success, and help prevent homelessness from becoming a lifelong educational disadvantage. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

Kyra Haas

Angel Wilkinson

Cece Gamez

Maliki King

Leti Serna

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