



Oregon School Employees Association

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Senate Judiciary Committee
Testimony on Senate Bill 347
Ed Edwards, Director of Government Relations
Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), AFT Local 6732

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

My name is Ed Edwards and I am the director of government relations for the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA). OSEA is a labor union that represents 20,000 classified support staff that work in Oregon's K-12 schools, community colleges, ESDs, Head Starts, libraries and parks and recreation districts.

OSEA supports the overall goal of Senate Bill 347 of making Oregon schools a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and educational staff. We have for years supported a prohibition on guns in schools or on school property. The one exception has been for law enforcement and fully trained campus/school security staff.

Although, Senate Bill 347 does not absolutely prohibit guns in schools, OSEA supports it because the text of the bill, along with the -3 and -4 amendments, provides schools a clear direction and choice on the issue.