



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

250 Division St NE  
Salem, OR 97301-1012  
Phone: 503-378-3583  
Fax: 503-378-4448

April 9, 2019

To: Ways and Means – Education Subcommittee  
Co-chair, Senator Frederick  
Co-chair, Representative McLain  
Senator Roblan  
Senator Thomsen  
Representative Alonso Leon  
Representative Drazan  
Representative Meek  
Representative Nearman



Re: Teacher Standards & Practices Commission Revenue Recommendation

---

On behalf of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commissioners, thank you for your time and interest in our agency. When Dr. Rosilez and I met with you in February, we advocated for an increase in funds to support our efforts in all three components of The Commission: Licensure, Program Approval, and Professional Practices. We have made positive gains in all aspects of our Licensure Customer Service measurements. We are creating new avenues for candidates of color to successfully complete higher education programs through multiple assessment measures. Finally, we plan to transition a position in Licensure to Professional Practices in order to improve the timeliness of our investigations.

I write you today to show support of The Commission's request to increase revenue sources needed to operate the current organization. **Specifically, I am advocating for a licensure fee increase of 20% beginning in the 2019-20 fiscal year.** When our fee structure changed in 2016, shifting primarily to a five-year renewal period, TSPC had not raised fees for over ten years. In 2016, the fee structure was reduced on an annual basis, offering a savings of time and money for most applicants. Unfortunately, the loss of revenue is now untenable for TSPC. Fees generated by TSPC licenses have slowed at a greater pace than anticipated in February when we discussed SB 5537. If revenues continue as currently projected, TSPC will fall below its expected Ending Fund Balance by the second half of the 2019-21 biennium. By increasing fees in the coming biennium and planning for regular cost of living adjustments in the future, TSPC will be self-sustaining. Stable revenue assures we continue to make positive strides in customer service, support our higher education partners and complete investigations in a timely manner.

Once again, thank you for your time and consideration. I am happy to address any concerns or questions you may have regarding The Commission.

Sincerely,

Maureen Wolf  
Chair, Teacher Standards & Practices Commission

