To Whom it May Concern,

I am an elementary school teacher and I am writing to show my support for HB 3427. This is my 22nd year of teaching. Never once have I wavered from knowing that this profession is my calling. I make a modest income, but I do believe what I do changes the world, and in the end, that is what matters most to me.

At the same time, we absolutely must get some relief from the large class sizes and get at the very least the current level of support that we are receiving right now.

Beaverton School district is planning to cut 200 teachers next year and decimate programs for kids. This means bigger classes. I have taught classes of 29-32 1st graders and it is one of the most frustrating, depressing jobs I have ever had. The entire year is spent coping, no one gets quality instruction or attention and good teachers burn out.

We are not asking for more money. We are just asking for conditions that help us to be good teachers. I would even give up some of my PERS, though my colleagues may not agree. Our kids are the future. We need them to have great experiences and learn to their potential. Please support HB 3427!

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