

From: [Patti](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for HB 3427
Date: Friday, April 19, 2019 3:29:45 PM

Please include these comments in the official record for HB 3427.

Dear Leaders,

I am an Oregon resident, the spouse of an Oregon teacher, and parent of a future Oregon student. And I'm very concerned about the future of our state, schools, teachers like my husband, and young people like my daughter.

PLEASE urge all the lawmakers to ACT NOW while there's still a chance and correct the draining of our future. Please support FULL funding for K-12 education as well as pre-k, and 2 and 4 year colleges! Please create new revenue sources that will stabilize the boom and bust cycle of Oregon schools.

I'm particularly passionate about the following which are all at risk with funding cuts:

- I believe librarians, music and arts programs are critical to the development of our children, especially the youngest. Schools are not meant to create factory workers anymore -- creativity is SO important if we want a chance at creating a future workforce that stands a chance at competing globally
- Over-inflated classroom sizes -- our teacher to student ratios are already among the worst in the nation ... it's insane to think they would get worse. Have you ever been in a room with 25-30+ kindergarteners? Do we want babysitters or teachers in our classrooms to educate the future?
- We need adequate mental health professional staffing at all schools. Already stretched-thin teachers are asked to be mental health professionals instead of skills and knowledge builders leaving less of them to actually teach.
- And last but not least, we need to protect the mental health of our educators, many of whom are already at a breaking point

I cannot think of an issue as far-reaching and more important than this.

Thank you for your time and consideration!!

Patti Lavallee