



Wendy Wilson, *Principal*

### **John Wetten Elementary**

250 E. Exeter · Gladstone, OR 97027 · (503) 656-6564 Fax: (503) 656-0917

To: Senate Committee on Rules

Re: HB 2876

I am writing in support of HB 2876. As an administrator in the Gladstone School District and as a trained mental health specialist, I see on a regular basis the increase need in mental health and social service supports in schools. I know there are often social work needs as well as support for a counseling program, but often in schools there is not funding for multiple mental health positions. Implementing a comprehensive counseling program involves multiple disciplines in a school, including teachers, psychologists, administrators as well as social workers and counselors. I have worked in schools where there have been both extremely qualified licensed school social workers and licensed school counselor implementing a comprehensive counseling program. As an administrator I would like the ability to choose from wide pool of candidates when hiring and this bill clarifies that for school districts. Please support the passing of HB 2876.

Wendy Wilson  
John Wetten Elementary School  
Gladstone, Oregon