

Hendrik (Hank) Schouten
Portland, Oregon 97202

March 20, 2021

Re: Support For: HB 3130

Dear Paul Holvey and Business and Labor Committee Members,

I'm a long time substitute teacher in the Portland area. I'm writing in support of HB 3130 because it is needed to help maintain the professional status of certified substitute teachers in Oregon

Substitute teachers in Oregon's public school perform a valuable and occasionally difficult function. They frequently arrive with little advance notice and attempt to smoothly carry out procedures aimed at fulfilling the regular teacher's learning goals for students. Many of the substitute teachers I have encountered have a great deal of experience and have learned to think on their feet with little time to prepare.

HB 3130 corrects a problem that has developed as districts have outsourced their substituting assignments to a third party vendors. The bill restores the employer-employee relationship that existed before outsourcing. With passage of the bill, substitute teachers will again be eligible for student loan forgiveness. The bill would restore the benefits to all substitute teachers which are currently available to substitute teachers who work for Education Service Districts (ESD's).

HB 3130 also would allow substitutes who qualify with enough hours to participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) regardless of what district(s) they work in. Those dedicated long-term and professional substitute teachers, who work many days each year, are needed to maintain quality education for Oregon students. They should be allowed to earn credit for retirement.

Thank you for supporting HB 3130.

Hank Schouten, MEd

Oregon Substitute Teacher