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Chair and Members of the Business and Labor House Committee
Legislature, State of Oregon

Dear Representative Holvey:

As a substitute teacher, thank you for bringing HB 3130 to a public hearing and work session.

HB 3130 allows Oregon substitute teachers to regain the benefits they lost owing to outsourcing to out of state enterprises like EduStaff located in Grand Rapids, Michigan. HB 3130 restores the employee-employer relationship between the substitute teacher and the school district, the school, and the regular classroom teacher. This "restorative" bill, for lost benefits and student loan forgiveness programs, levels the field for all substitute teachers, affording the same benefits from their work and public service as substitute teachers who really are employees of ESD and school Districts.

Several years ago my wife and I were visiting the state of Michigan. On our way back to the airport in Grand Rapids we passed by a large building with EduStaff on its front. I was reminded by this irony of just how far some schools in Oregon have separated substitute teachers from their Districts. Subs are paid and hired by EduStaff, yet before they work for a school district, they must be approved by the district and ESD. So who is the employer? You work in a classroom, administered by the Principal, yet are paid from an outfit in Michigan. And to make matters worse, you lose your opportunity to contribute to Oregon PERS.

I look forward to correcting this inequity.

John Snelling
Certified Secondary School teacher
Substitute for 20 years