



**COALITION OF
OREGON SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS**

Coalition of Oregon School Administrators
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March 23, 2021

TO: House Education Committee
FR: Morgan Allen, COSA
RE: Letter of Support for HB 3354

Good afternoon Chair Alonso Leon, Vice Chair Neron, Vice Chair Weber, and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Morgan Allen and on behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and our 2500 members across Oregon, we encourage you to support House Bill 3354.

Growing the diversity of Oregon's K-12 education workforce is a top priority for our superintendents and administrators. HB 3354 would eliminate the requirement for teacher candidates to take and pass the edPTA prior to applying for licensure. We believe this legislation is consistent with our goals of removing barriers to licensure without lowering standards of preparation and proficiency.

The legislation will require the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to partner with stakeholders to develop a performance-based measure, along with all the standardization, rubrics and processes necessary to ensure consistency and accountability for existing standards across all licensure programs. And teacher preparation programs will still be required to show that teacher candidates demonstrate the knowledge, skill and competencies required in law.

Through the Student Success Act, Oregon has begun to invest millions of dollars in "Grow Your Own" teacher recruitment and retention programs. Our state must have a serious conversation about alternative pathways and barrier busting if we hope to make significant progress in the coming years dealing with our teacher shortage.

HB 3354 is an important step towards opening new pathways to prospective educators and teachers in our state. Our members urge you to pass HB 3354 and look forward to working with TSPC and others to ensure a successful implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.