



To: House Committee On Behavior Health
From: Richard Donovan, Legislative Services Specialist
Re: House Bill 3037
Date: February 22, 2021

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Chair Sanchez, Vice-Chairs Moore Green and Nosse, and members of the committee:

On behalf of OSBA membership, including 197 school districts and 19 Education Service Districts, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 3037.

HB 3037 would expand the reporting required under circumstances that involve student or school-age person suicide. Suicide among students is a statewide challenge that has plagued Oregon schools for years. The state has undertaken responses to this challenge, including the Oregon Healthy Teens Survey.

However, the problem unfortunately persists. And HB 3037 would take a positive step towards addressing this problem. Data and reporting are necessary tools in addressing public health crises. And youth suicide is a health crisis for schools and students. And, unfortunately, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has only increased concern that students are in danger. Students are isolated at home, away from adults with whom they have strong school-based relationships. Data now is more important than ever.

Thank you for your time. Please support HB 3037.