

January 30, 2023

To: House Committee on Education From: Oregon Education Association Re: Support for HB 2240

Dear Chair Neron and members of the House Committee on Education,

The Oregon Education Association represents over 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, from pre-k to community colleges. Our members are teachers, bus drivers, custodians, teacher assistants, nutrition specialists, community college professionals and more.

In the 2021, the enactment of HB 2359 into law required the creation of a translation system for healthcare professionals.

In original discussions of the bill, School districts employ healthcare professionals, including nurses, physical therapists, and speech-language pathologists were not intended to be part of the provisions in HB 2359, because these healthcare professionals work for schools, not in a hospital or traditional healthcare setting.

We appreciate and support this clarification in HB 2240. We encourage the committee to pass this bill.

Sincerely, Michele Ruffin Oregon Education Association