



# COQUILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT #8

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**Submitter:** Jerod Nunn, Business Manager

**Agency:** Coquille School District

**Date:** February 1, 2023

**Committee:** House Committee on Education

**Measure:** HB 2690

I am submitting written testimony in opposition of HB 2690.

HB 2690 would have a devastating effect on Coquille School District at current funding levels. Coquille School District currently has a 17 step, 8 column salary schedule for licensed teachers consisting of 98 different salaries based on years of experience and level of education. The lowest starting salary for the 2023/2024 school year is \$45,210 and the highest salary is \$83,749. 48 of our 98 possible teacher salaries are under \$60,000.

If the state mandated a \$60,000 starting salary for teachers, our salary costs alone would increase \$1,272,355. Adding another \$496,218 for PERS, FICA, Oregon Paid Leave, etc., would raise our cost for the 74 teachers we employ to a total of \$1,768,573 or 10% of our General Fund budget for this year. Without a complete overhaul of how the State School Fund is dispersed, I don't see how any district could afford a change of this magnitude. I know the Coquille School District could not.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Wayne Gallagher  
Superintendent



Jerod Nunn  
Business Manager