

Submitter: Erin Budde
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB2959

To: House Committee on Education
From: Erin Budde, CCC-SLP
RE: Support for HB 2959

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Wright and Hudson and members of the committee–

My name is Erin Budde and I am here today as a Speech Language Pathologist of 5 years, and I am here to express my support for House Bill 2959.

As a trained health professional in school, I am both licensed and practice within school systems and settings that can sometimes be in conflict with one another. We believe our students deserve the best possible educational journey at every turn and we know that the barriers that provide for these conflicting rules to our licensure are systemic, so we know the solutions will take long-term commitment and dedication.

One concern I have is how often I am asked to case manage children that are outside of my scope of practice. I am also concerned by seeing my colleagues asked to provide intervention on goals that would be under an SLP's scope, yet are not trained in how to appropriately target these goals. I know that this is a common problem in early childhood.

One clear concern expressed by members from all licensed professionals working in an education setting is the disconnect between requirements of licensure and the realities of practice in schools. That is why we need HB 2959, which will create a Task Force to examine the scope of practice for each type of licensed health professional in schools, establish criteria to help define when procedures are inconsistent with scope of practice, and provide recommendations for alignment.

Thank you for your time today and I encourage the committee to vote YES on HB 2959.

Erin Budde
Early Childhood SLP
Portland, OR

