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Dear Senate Education Committee,

I'm writing to you to express my support for this bill, and to explain that my work with special Ed children depends on improving the conditions discussed in the bill.

- SPED Pay Differential: Increasing wages for licensed special education educators is extremely low, and to attract and retain staff to Oregon's deeply under-resourced special education programs is needed! As it is I'm don't see how long I can continue in my position.
- Minimum Salary Task Force is a MUST. Our pay doesn't support even the most frugal and simple living.
- Guaranteed Minimum Hours for Classified Staff: currently I am challenged to receive more than 4 hours a day, while I am willing and I know my work is needed.
- Mentorship and Apprenticeship Funding: I am driven to do good work, but at the early stage that I am, and without experience and connections in the field, a mentor would make a world of difference to me.

Sincerely,

Assaf Shapira