

Submitter: Matthew Hokanson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB283

As a longtime high school teacher in Oregon (23 years) I am opposed to SB283. I think increasing SPED pay is a mistake. Many already get an extra stipend and aids to accompany children to their classes. I see aids sit in my room and read a book while the sped student they accompany does nothing. We cannot continue to ignore the needs of middle and high achievers by pouring money in to SPED programs that do not make a meaningful difference in the students performance.

I think the minimum salary is a good idea, lumped in with a number of bad ideas, primarily the Contract Substitute Ban. We need subs, especially since the pandemic. Some subs are OK, other's completely ignore our carefully made plans much to our consternation as teachers. Only using district employees to fill this void is a counterproductive to a real problem that needs a practical solution.

Guaranteed minimum hours for classified staff is also a waste of precious tax dollars. Many jobs are low hours for a reason, these are part time jobs.