

Date:	March 1, 2023
To:	House Education Committee
From:	Parasa Chanramy, Coalition of Oregon School Administrators
Subject:	Support for House Bill <u>3178-1</u>

Dear Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Hudson and Wright, and Members of the House Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and our over 2,800 members, we write this letter to express our support for House Bill 3178 with the -1 amendment.

One of our top priorities is ensuring that our educator workforce better reflects our students. To achieve this, it is critical that we support policies and investments that remove barriers to the profession, and continue to provide on-going, relevant, and timely support, professional learning, and mentorship to our educators throughout their career in education.

House Bill 3178 will help address some of the financial barriers that our culturally and linguistically diverse candidates face when pursuing a teaching license. The bill would increase the scholarship amount from \$10,000 to \$12,000 per academic year, for a maximum of two years.

In the bill, the Higher Education Coordinating Commission shall award these scholarships.

Our hope is that the Commission, Educator Advancement Council, Teacher Practices and Standards Commission, and the Department of Education will continue to collaborate with one another to help streamline the information, outreach, and applications for different scholarship opportunities that our diverse candidates are applying for.

We believe that collaboration and communication will be critical in helping more diverse candidates secure the financial aid that is necessary to cover the costs of pursuing a teaching degree or license in Oregon.

With that, we urge you to support House Bill 3178, with the -1 amendment.