



February 28, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Oregon Education Association

Re: Neutral on SB 3

Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee---

The Oregon Education Association represents over 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, from pre-k to community colleges. Our members are classroom teachers, bus drivers, custodians, teacher assistants, nutrition specialists, school counselors, community college professionals and more.

The goals of SB 3 around future and financial planning are important for ours and the next generations to know and understand. As we think about what it means to manage personal financial decisions, or what comes after high school and applying real skills in the real world.

Our members and staff were part of the process with SB 744 report that was produced and understand that financial and future planning are part of the suite of recommendations made. There is certainly appetite both in the educator field for this content and interest for students to take credit courses like this given the realities of applying for student aide, FAFSA, student loans and managing money, etc.

On behalf of our educators who are in a workforce crisis and under immense stress we do want to emphasize the need for flexibility in both how the credit requirements get fulfilled and the implementation timeline. We would like to see that this begin for those anticipated to graduate in 2027 or 2028, so that there is adequate time for the process on professional development for classroom instruction and curriculum after the state board of education adopts rules around this requirement.

Sincerely,

Michele Ruffin

Government Relations Consultant

Oregon Education Association