

Hoa Nguyen
State Representative
District 48



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Testimony in Support of HB3383

Hello Chair Neron, Vice Chair Wright, Vice Chair Hudson, and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Hoa Nguyen, State Representative for HD48 East Portland & Damascus. I am here to testify in support of House Bill 3383, which will ensure representation of classified staff on school commissions and advisory boards.

I also work as a Student and Community Engagement Specialist at Clackamas Education Service District. This is a Classified Employee position. “Professional Classified School Employees” is a term used to identify the myriad of employees which ensure a school runs smoothly; some of which are: library and health assistants, clerical staff, interpreters, campus monitors, transition specialists, and before- and after-school caregivers.

I worked closely with such Paraeducators as a Sun School Coordinator; they are the ones that come early to school and also stay after school to help support the students. And our bus drivers and nutrition services staff, they are the backbone of the Sun Program. They are the ones that have relationships with the students. At \$15 an hr, they helped me provide a safe space for 300 middle school students, many of whom had issues with absenteeism, who were struggling in class, struggling to form relationships with their peers.

Classified Employees are the front-line experts who understand what the students are going through day to day. As such, we should have a voice on state policy boards and commissions alongside other education professionals to provide insight on education policy, improve governance and keep Oregon public schools safe and functional for the students we serve.

That is why I’m a proud sponsor of House Bill 3383. Thank you.

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