

Submitter: Samantha Dumont

On Behalf of: Portland

Committee: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education

Measure: HB5015

RE: opposition to HB 5015 as drafted

March 28, 2023

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Education sub-committee,

My name is Samantha Dumont and I have a 1st grader and 4th grader at Buckman Elementary School in Portland. I am also an environmental educator in the region as an employee of a non-profit. I recommend a \$10.3 Billion appropriation to the State School Fund because our kids in Oregon need the current level of support. If we lose teachers and support staff, our schools will suffer greatly! Our students are already behind academically and students' mental health is worse than ever because of COVID. Students need smaller class sizes to be successful and if we don't allocate enough funding, we will lose fantastic teachers and staff. We cannot afford that! Oregon is far behind the country and should put more emphasis on public education than what has historically happened.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I urge you to allocate \$10.3 billion to the State School fund.

Sincerely,

Samantha Dumont

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