

Submitter: Rachelle Zimmerman  
On Behalf Of: David Douglas School District  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Chairs Sanchez and Steiner, my name is Rachelle Zimmerman, and I am an eighth year math educator in David Douglas School District in southeast Portland. In that time, I have had the privilege of teaching approximately 1440 high school students grow mathematically & strive for graduation! During my time as an educator, I have experienced first hand the impacts inadequate funding has on student learning. There have many been years where class sizes of 35 were common occurrences across content areas. First and foremost, students are negatively impacted by such large classes. Often times students have to learn in classrooms where there are not enough physical supplies, chairs, and desks. Even more disheartening is the reality that passionate teachers run out of energy & time to address the needs of their students when the ratio exceeds ~20:1. Every American alive today should all be extremely aware of the dire need we currently have for more high-quality, passionate, creative, and student-centered educators! Without a SUBSTANTIAL investment in a education budget of \$10.3 billion (or more), we are sure to see the continued trend of educators leaving the profession and low-enrollment in teacher prep programs. Please support all Oregon students (current & future) by investing in their education, their educators, and their academic advancement to help us create a better world for all of us!