

Submitter: Mary Hepp-Elam
On Behalf Of: OSEA
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

As a member of the Oregon School Employees Association, I support quality education for all Oregon's students – from early childhood through K-12 to higher education.

Please prioritize state investment for the following bills under consideration in your committee. Our schools need these funds to support existing programs for students, because they need us now more than EVER for their social, emotional, behavioral, physical and academic health.

Classified employees support student needs every day. We deserve basic worker rights - like Just Cause protection, equal access to unemployment insurance (UI) benefits and critical provisions to mitigate on the job injury - including access to individual education plans and de-escalation training. In the final state budget, we need these core policies and investments to provide a quality education experience for all Oregon's students and families every day:

SB 283:

- Just Cause for classified employees (no fiscal impact)
- 20% Salary differential for those classified employees who support special education
- Study on minimum salaries

SB 489: Access to Unemployment Insurance for Classified Employees

HB 5015: Full current-service level K-12 State School Fund investment \$10.3 billion

HB 3198: Culturally appropriate early childhood literacy programing - so that ALL students can recognize themselves as participating members of our great nation.

Thank you for all that you do and for the opportunity to submit my comments.

Sincerely,

Mary Hepp-Elam