



## Oregon School Employees Association

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Senate Committee on Rules  
Senator Kate Lieber, Chair

RE: SB 1045 - Support

Chair Neron and Members of the House Committee on Education:

Thank you for the opportunity to support the Dash 5 amendments to SB 1045.

The Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) members support students in all Oregon counties and in nearly all levels of Oregon public education, including Head Start programs, K-12 school districts, education service districts and community colleges. OSEA members perform many of the essential tasks that keep Oregon public schools safe and functional for students, administrators and teachers.

OSEA is pleased to support the Office of Governor Kotek's direction to increase the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) ability to raise accountability for school districts by adding more tools to ODE's enforcement toolbox. While SB 1045 does not address all of OSEA's concerns, it is a step in the right direction to providing a higher quality of educational experience for all of Oregon's students.

Oregon's professional classified staff are the most diverse component of the K-12 and community college workforce, we most closely reflect the students we support. So it is with our full support that we stand with Governor Kotek in clarifying the actions available to ODE for those school districts and community colleges who are standard, conditionally standard or nonstandard. Discrimination in our schools is unacceptable. On page 6 of the dash 5 amendments, the bill states "...2) a person may not be subjected to discrimination in any program, service, school, or interschool activity that is provided by a public elementary, or secondary education provider, community college or public university." We further support the language that requires an investigation and determination; however, we would prefer to clarify what constitutes "...a reasonable amount of time."

OSEA believes that we are responsible for providing a safe environment for our students and the staff who support them, to underscore this point, OSEA supports the dash five amendments' direction to convene an advisory committee for the purposes of reviewing rules of the State Board of Education that will provide feedback on how best to revise and improve performance monitoring. OSEA greatly appreciates the opportunity to review staffing levels and data collection from school districts - including a comprehensive look at those areas where data is currently being collected and areas where data has not yet been garnered.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Susan Allen  
OSEA Government Relations Specialist

