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Date: February 6, 2024

To: Senate Education Committee

From: Parasa Chanramy, Coalition of Oregon School Administrators

Subject: Letter of Support for SB 1532 - Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Plan

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Good Afternoon, Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber, and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and our nearly 2,900 members, we submit this letter expressing our support for Senate Bill 1532.

**SB 1532 establishes a statewide PreK through Post-Secondary Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Plan.**

The Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Plan would be developed and implemented by the Oregon Department of Education, in collaboration with a diverse advisory group that would include students and families who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers, and education and community partners.

**The Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Plan must:**

- Address the academic disparities that our students who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers face
- Recognize historical practices that impact outcomes for students who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers
- Lift up culturally responsive models and best practices from Oregon, and the nation, around family engagement; expanded learning opportunities; access to early childhood education; and academic supports

SB 1532 also forms an Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Grant Program where early learning hubs, early learning providers, school districts, education service districts, higher education institutions, tribal governments, and community-based organizations are eligible to apply for competitive grants. Grantees could leverage these dollars to improve systems of support for our students and families who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers.



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Grant funding would be able to be focused on helping students and families who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers navigate our public school system, boost and improve interpretation and translation in more languages, increase wraparound services and supports; update curriculum and instructional materials; and more.

We believe that this plan is both necessary, and long overdue in helping create more welcoming, affirming, and supportive learning environments for our students and families. We appreciate the funding that the Legislature provided in 2023 to jumpstart this work to better support our students who are immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers. Now, it is time to codify the Immigrant and Refugee Student Success Plan in statute.

Please vote YES on SB 1532.