

Chair Neron, Vice-chairs Hudson and Wright, and members of the House Committee on Education:

The American Federation of Teachers – Oregon is in full support of House Bill 4077 and recommends this bill’s enactment. Our labor federation includes 27 local unions and 18,000+ represented members across the state of Oregon, including several K12 district’s classified staff. This bill will make progress towards worker safety, injury accountability, and prudent state oversight.

Currently, there are barriers to accurate reporting and tracking of incidents. These include critical staffing levels, short workdays, language barriers with paper forms currently only in English, and real or perceived fear of reprisal or retaliation if reporting an injury that is not “bad enough.” Additionally, that cause less than 3 days off work are not tracked by the state – no matter how often they occur.

HB 4077 will codify findings and recommendations from the 2023 Interim Incident Report Group convened by Sen. Dembrow and Rep. Neron. This bill will allow AFT-Oregon and our K12 classified membership to have access to a standard statewide incident form while giving our state more information on what is occurring in our schools.

Access to incident reporting should have no barriers, easily accessible, and quick. This will make marked improvements towards those goals.

On behalf of AFT-Oregon, we urge your support for HB 4077.



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