



**HB 3041: Educator Advancement Council Technical Adjustments Bill**  
**House Education Committee**  
**January 27, 2025**

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire and members of the House Education Committee, my name is Dr. Karen Pérez and I am the Executive Director for the Educator Advancement Council (EAC). Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3041, which will strengthen the coalition of education system partners working towards shared goals and better coordinate state-funded initiatives that are responsive to local needs and contexts.

The purpose of the Educator Advancement Council (EAC) is to provide professional learning resources and other support for efforts to align, coordinate, and improve educator advancement and effectiveness across the P-20 system.

The EAC is currently established by intergovernmental agreement (IGA) between the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC), Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC), Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC), as well as one Oregon School District and one Education Service District (ORS 342.940).

The IGA has proven to be an ineffective way for the Council to achieve its goals; structures required when functioning under the requirements of an IGA have created unnecessary administrative barriers and require significant resources to maintain. The IGA requires a lengthy process of more than 8 steps every time there is a legislative change and/or when there is a change in membership among the representatives who sign the IGA.

HB 3041 is largely a technical fix and would remove the requirement for the IGA, and instead establish the Council in state policy, maintaining its existing purpose and improving efficiency of administrative processes. The changes have no anticipated fiscal impact.

**The administrative and operational challenges related to the current IGA include:**

1. The use of the EAC IGA is misaligned to the reality of implementation.
2. The IGA requires a high level of commitment and responsibility by local education agencies (LEAs).
3. Maintaining the IGA is a slow and resource intensive process.
4. An IGA does not create a transparent and collaborative process.
5. The IGA has required frequent revisions in response to state law and signatory changes.

These challenges indicate there is misalignment between the function of an IGA and the conditions needed to develop a “coalition” of system partners. HB 3041 removes the use of the IGA while maintaining the Council’s existing purpose and authority. HB 3041 supports the opportunity and vision of a coalition of education system partners working towards shared goals, elevating the voices of educators, and coordinating initiatives that are responsive to local needs and contexts. It proposes a model that reduces administrative burden and creates greater transparency regarding the operations of the Council, as well as improves the ability to operationalize collaboration, coordination, and alignment in support of educator advancement and effectiveness.



**The changes being made through the bill will primarily impact the amount of time and resources needed to develop, revise, and implement operational and administrative processes of the Council.** By removing the use of the IGA as the governance structure, these same types of statutory, rule, or procedural changes can be implemented much more efficiently using a Board Charter, which is a written policy document prepared by a board and ideally reviewed and updated annually. Changes to membership would not require any revisions to governance documents.

There would be **several benefits** to the state in using the model proposed by the Legislative Concept:

- **Greater alignment** between the governance framework and the operations of the Council - with clear and consistent communication, those involved will be better informed and understand the relationship between the Council and ODE as the administering agency. This will reduce confusion, improve efficiency, and ultimately promote progress towards the Council's goals.
- **Reduction of staff and Council member time and resources spent** on developing, revising, and implementing administrative procedures (which reduces cost to participating agencies, including local and state agencies). With increased capacity among staff and Council members to focus on the business of the Council that is impacting educators, students, and communities, the Council will be able to work more effectively towards its goals.
- **Greater transparency and opportunities for collaboration in decision-making** regarding the administrative procedures of the Council through the use of a board charter (or other governance document) that is agreed to by all members and does not require significant legal consultation.
- **Fewer reasons to revise the Council's governance documents.** The Council would have the option to review and revise as needed but would only be required to if statute changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments, and we welcome any questions you may have. We urge your support of HB 3041.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Karen Pérez

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