



Linn Benton Lincoln Education Service District • 905 4th Avenue SE • Albany, Oregon 97321 • Phone: 541-812-2600 • Fax: 541-926-6047 •
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Chair Neron and members of the committee, my name is Julie Wickwire and I have been a School Psychologist with Linn Benton Lincoln ESD for the past 18 years. My current role is to provide full-time school psychology services to the students of the Greater Albany Public School District in Albany, Oregon.

Growing up, my father served in the Army on active duty and as a member of the Oregon Army National Guard for 35 years, retiring as a Brigadier General. My son is currently a Captain and pilot on active duty with the Air Force. As such, I have a deep understanding of the challenges that comes with being a part of a military family. My son has been on active duty for five years, and to date he and his wife have already moved three times (Oklahoma, New Mexico, and now Japan). My brother-in-law recently retired from the Navy, and he and his family moved nine times in 20 years of service.

I would like to advocate on behalf of military spouses who would be considering a career in School Psychology. The effect of hiring delays when their spouse is transferred, due to licensing issues across states, could be a real kitchen table issue for military families. There is a shortage of School Psychologists nationwide and the critical services that they provide. We need to remove barriers to those who want to enter this much needed profession.

The lack of a large, active-duty military base in Oregon means that our military families are often not highlighted. By adopting HB 2596, Oregon could remove one of the challenges facing a military spouse who is working as a School Psychologist, or considering pursuing a career as one. This in turn, could mean greater opportunities for the students in Oregon to receive the critical services provided by School Psychologists.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important segment of our population.

Sincerely,

Julie Wickwire, M.S.