

COALITION OF OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

Date:	February 3, 2025
То:	House Education Committee
From:	Parasa Chanramy, COSA
Subiect:	Letter of Support for House Bill 2596

Good Afternoon, Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the House Education Committee:

For the record, my name is Parasa Chanramy with the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators. Our membership organization represents 3,000 administrators who are school principals, central office administrators, and superintendents.

COSA supports House Bill 2596 - the <u>Interstate Licensure Compact for School Psychologists</u>. We view this bill as one – of many – important efforts and strategies to help provide students with more mental and behavioral health services across Oregon.

The <u>National Association of School Psychologists</u> recommend a ratio of 500 students to 1 school psychologist. In Oregon, data from 2023-24 show that our ratio is 1,279 students to 1 school psychologist – nearly 2.5 times the recommended ratio.

We believe that this bill will help:

- Enhance license portability and reciprocity when school psychologists change their state of residence.
- Help recruit more school psychologists to Oregon, and support their employment in Oregon schools.
- Most importantly, help lower the ratio of school psychologists to Oregon students, so that we can increase the quality of care and service provided for students.

Our members continue to reinforce the need to grow investments in expanding the continuum of mental and behavioral health care and services for youth across our state, especially in service desert regions. Additionally, our members support efforts to grow our workforce, especially in hard-to-staff regions, subjects, and specialties.

Please vote yes on HB 2596 School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact.