



Chair Neron, Vice Chairs McIntire and Dobson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cynthia Branger Muñoz, and I am testifying on behalf of the Oregon Education Association (OEA), representing more than 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, spanning pre-K through our community colleges. Our members include teachers, bus drivers, custodians, teacher assistants, nutrition specialists, community college faculty and staff, and many others who work tirelessly to support Oregon's students.

OEA supports House Bill 2510 and its companion bill, House Bill 2511, both of which will improve transparency and accountability in Oregon's public education workforce data.

Currently, Oregon law requires school districts to report detailed information on licensed educators and administrators, but this requirement does not extend to non-licensed (classified) staff. As a result, essential school employees—including educational assistants, custodians, and nutrition specialists—are not fully accounted for in state workforce data. This creates significant gaps in the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) Staff Position File, particularly regarding compensation and job classifications, making it difficult to assess the true cost of staffing our schools.

House Bill 2510 ensures that all public education employees—classified, licensed, and administrative—are fully accounted for in state data collection. This includes critical details on wages, benefits, and employment status, providing a more accurate picture of the financial and structural needs of Oregon's schools. While HB 2511 focuses on making ODE's Staff Position File more accessible to the public, HB 2510 ensures that the data itself is complete and accurate.

This legislation is particularly important for calculating Oregon's Current Service Level (CSL), which serves as the foundation for determining adequate school funding each year. Without comprehensive and transparent workforce data, the CSL risks being incomplete, potentially underestimating the actual costs of maintaining a strong and stable education system.

At the same time, HB 2510 and HB 2511 recognize the operational realities of local education agencies and seek to balance transparency with minimizing administrative burdens. By standardizing workforce data collection and making it easily accessible, these bills will allow for more informed budgetary decisions at both the state and local levels.

Ensuring that every education professional's contributions are visible and valued is essential for advancing equity and improving Oregon's public education system. House Bills 2510 and 2511 move us in the right direction.

Thank you for considering this important legislation.