

Submitter: Sarah Rohrs
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2953

Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Dobson, Vice-Chair McIntire, and Members of the Committee,
Thank you for support of children and education in Oregon.

As a concerned Oregonian who works in an elementary school, I am writing to urge you to support HB 2953 to fully fund special education services. I am also with the Sacred Organizing Coalition which represents hundreds of teams and thousands of Oregonians working to move us toward an equitable and just Oregon.

I work in an elementary school where I witness on a daily basis the need for greater special education services for children and training for staff. I believe every student deserves to receive the support they need to fulfill their promise and potential. Likewise, all teachers and support staff need the training and resources to give these children the quality help they deserve. Due to an outdated funding formula, Oregon's funding for special education services is too low. This must be updated to reflect the increase for special education services to do anxiety, autism and ADHD.

Letting this situation continue means our students are not getting the support they need in schools which should represent a level playing field for children and youth.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Sarah Rohrs