

Date:February 17, 2025To:House Education CommitteeFrom:Parasa ChanramySubject:Letter of Support for House Bill 2682

Dear 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 HB 2682. This bill requires the Oregon Department of Education to establish an advisory committee to review the latest research and develop recommendations on modernizing the Adequate Service Level model for <u>Early Intervention / Early Childhood Special</u> <u>Education Programs</u> (EI/ECSE) in Oregon.

<u>Oregon's EI/ECSE providers</u> serve over 14,000 infants, toddlers, and children experiencing disabilities. Key services include, but are not limited to:

- Free screenings and evaluations for children ages birth to five that help look at children's development and whether special education supports can build skills to further individual developmental progress.
- Home visiting and support for families and caregivers (examples include: parent coaching, service coordination, and collaboration around an Individual Family Service Plan).
- Specially designed instruction and related services such as physical, occupational, or speech and language therapy.

Unfortunately, the Adequate Service Level model for EI/ECSE programs hasn't been modernized since 2011. When these programs are underfunded, our children, families, and early special education teachers and staff are impacted directly.

Modernizing the Adequate Service Level model is long overdue. This bill is an important step forward. It will help jumpstart the process of reviewing our current model, learning from recent research, and making recommendations on how to update our formula for EI/ECSE programs.

Please vote yes on HB 2682 so that we can i) ensure that EI/ECSE programs can keep pace with the needs of our children and families; and ii) improve Oregon's system of support for the developmental and educational needs of children ages birth to five before they enter the K-12 system.