



February 17, 2025

Re: Support for HB 2682, EI/ECSE

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

We urge you to support a simple, common sense measure to make our budgeting system for Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) make sense. HB 2682 creates a process by which ODE and the Legislature make more accurate and equitable investments in young children with disabilities and learning delays, which is absolutely critical to get right in the first few years of a child's life.

In 2024, we began to modernize how we fund education with Governor Kotek's process related to the State School Fund updates. HB 2682 proposes to create a similar process to ensure that the same types of common sense updates are applied consistently throughout the State's most critical early learning program for children with disabilities.

EI/ECSE is important in our communities because it provides essential support to children and families during the time when children are developing those crucial skills in areas like language, social skills, and physical development, while also empowering families to actively participate in their child's learning and growth, ultimately leading to better long-term outcomes for the child and their family.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanett Sealy
Program Director
Multnomah Early Childhood Program

Kevin Anderson
Program Administrator
Multnomah Early Childhood Program