



To: House Committee on Education
From: Advocates for Disability Supports
Re: Support for HB 2953 (2025)

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

My name is **Lisa Ledson**, and I am here on behalf of **Advocates for Disability Supports**, a **grassroots, parent-led organization** dedicated to ensuring children with disabilities receive the services they need to thrive. **Most of the children we advocate for access their education through Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).**

We strongly support **HB 2953** and the **-3 amendment** as an essential accountability tool. **It is time to eliminate the funding cap entirely and fully support students with disabilities in Oregon.**

A **fully funded education** is an investment in the future of individuals with disabilities. When students receive the **instruction, therapies, and resources** necessary for success, they develop **independence, employment skills, and the ability to participate meaningfully in their communities.** Without proper support, they **face barriers that limit opportunities and increase reliance on social services.**

Oregon's **funding cap limits resources, making it harder for schools to provide legally required support.** Instead of ensuring services are readily available, **districts, educators, and families must fight for them.** Some claim that removing the cap will **incentivize over-identification** of students with disabilities. As **someone who has participated in more than a hundred IEP meetings over the past five years,** I can

confidently say **this claim is unfounded. Anyone familiar with the IEP process knows the extensive evaluations, documentation, and eligibility criteria involved.**

No other student group faces a funding cap. **We do not restrict funding for reading interventions or language support, so there is no justification for limiting resources for students with disabilities.** Schools cannot meet their legal obligations under IDEA if funding does not reflect actual student needs.

Investing in education now **reduces reliance on government services and increases opportunities for independence and employment.** The -3 amendment ensures **accountability and transparency, directing funding where it is needed most.**

Please fully support HB 2953 and remove the funding cap once and for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lisa Ledson , BSN, RN

[Advocates for Disability Supports](#)