

Submitter: Laura Bertram

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2448

I strongly support HB 2448, which ensures that students with the highest needs receive the full funding necessary for their education. Currently, Oregon's High Cost Disability Grant only covers about 40% of the actual costs required to support students whose specialized educational needs exceed \$30,000 per year. This gap forces school districts to divert already limited resources, impacting both students with disabilities and the broader student population.

By allowing full reimbursement, HB 2448 ensures that districts can provide essential services—such as one-on-one support, specialized instruction, and medical assistance—without compromising the quality of education for all students. No child should go without the resources they need due to inadequate funding.

I urge the Legislature to pass HB 2448 and commit to fully funding special education for Oregon's most vulnerable students. Every child deserves equitable access to education, regardless of the cost of their needs.