



# CONSOLIDATED OREGON INDIVISIBLE NETWORK

To: Chair Neron and Members of the House Education Committee

Re: In Support of HB 2953

Date: February 18, 2025

I am writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for HB 2953. COIN is made up of Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and progressive values, including full funding for education. HB 2953 is an important step towards full funding for special education programs (SPED) in K-12 schools.

We support lifting rather than revising the cap. As the committee is aware, the number of students who need significant support is expected to keep rising. Right now, about one quarter of children who qualify for SPED services are not receiving them, largely because of the lack of funds. Let's not risk another cycle of underfunding when we outgrow another cap. Instead, HB 2953 would enable school districts to provide the services actually needed for the actual number of students who need them.

Respectfully,

Lynda Martin-McCormick

COIN Legislative Team, Education Group

<https://www.coinoregon.org/>