

Submitter: Hallie McNaughton  
On Behalf Of: HB2953  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2953

Testimony in Support of Removing the Percentage Cap on Special Education Funding

Hallie McNaughton

Bend, Or

02/18/2025

To the Members of House Committee on Education,

My name is Hallie McNaughton, and I am the parent of a 9-year-old child who receives special education services. I am writing today to strongly support removing the percentage cap on the amount of money distributed from the State School Fund for students eligible for special education.

Every child deserves access to the education and support they need to succeed, regardless of their abilities or challenges. Unfortunately, the current funding cap means that many students with disabilities do not receive the full resources and services necessary for their education. Special education is not a one-size-fits-all approach—it requires individualized instruction, therapies, and support systems that often exceed the capped funding allocation. When schools do not receive adequate funding, it directly impacts the quality and availability of services for children like mine.

My child has benefited tremendously from special education services, but I have also seen firsthand the limitations caused by funding shortfalls. Schools are forced to make difficult choices, sometimes leading to larger caseloads for special education teachers, reduced support staff, and fewer opportunities for individualized interventions. Removing the cap would ensure that funding is based on the actual needs of students rather than an arbitrary percentage, helping to provide equitable access to education for all children with disabilities.

Investing in special education is not just the right thing to do—it is essential for our children's future and for the success of our communities. I urge you to remove the percentage cap and fully fund the needs of students with disabilities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Hallie McNaughton

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