



Chair Frederick, Vice Chair Weber, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 314.

My name is Cynthia Branger Muñoz, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Oregon Education Association (OEA), representing more than 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, spanning pre-K through our community colleges. Our members include teachers, bus drivers, custodians, teacher assistants, nutrition specialists, community college faculty and staff, and many others who work tirelessly to support Oregon's students..

SB 314 is a step toward strengthening Oregon's teacher pipeline by ensuring greater coordination between the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) and the Educator Advancement Council (EAC). This body has made important investments in nontraditional pathways like Grow Your Own programs and educator apprenticeships, but these efforts often operate in silos, creating confusion for candidates and inefficiencies in funding.

By having TSPC and EAC to jointly develop a strategic plan, SB 314 ensures these pathways work together in a cohesive, accessible system. It is my understanding that this work has already started with the current Directors, but this bill would make sure it continues through any further changes in leadership. This collaboration helps streamline licensure processes, reduce barriers for aspiring educators, and maximize the impact of state investments. It will also enable agencies to braid funding sources more effectively, ensuring resources are leveraged to support long-term sustainability.

At a time when we face critical teacher shortages, we must make it easier—not harder—for qualified candidates to enter the profession. SB 314 provides a practical solution by aligning efforts, improving efficiency, and ensuring state investments work in tandem to build a stronger, more diverse educator workforce.

On behalf of the Oregon Education Association, I urge your support for SB 314. Thank you for your time, and I am happy to answer any questions.