

Submitter: Anna Balmaseda  
On Behalf Of: student  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3063

Dear esteemed representative,

I am a hospital school teacher with the Multnomah Education Service District, writing in support of House Bill 3603. This important bill would provide students experiencing a health crisis a vital connection to not only their important work as students but also to a sense of normalcy and hope for their future.

As I teach at bedside or in the hospital classrooms, I often interact with parents and students who have just found out they were or will be dropped from their school. The sentiment shared is how can they drop me right after I got this terrible diagnosis. This rule misses the intended mark of protecting students.

Only two days ago I was talking with a student who has been dropped two times this year. As a high school sophomore she is very aware of how this both delays and disrupts her learning as she was unable to do her school work while her and will need to reenroll before she has access. Her words to me "They always do this but I just don't know why its legal". While hospitalized this girl should only have to worry about healing and working on her school work is normalizing for her.

Thank you so much for considering this important initiative.