

Chair Frederick, Vice Chair Webber. and Members of the Committee,

My name is **Brook Anderson**, and I am **aspiring educator at University of Oregon studying to be a high school social studies teacher**. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB717, which seeks to address financial barriers for aspiring educators and ensure mentor teachers receive fair compensation.

I have yet to go into unpaid student teaching but I have a friend and coworker who is. She has told me struggles of exhaustion with having to take classes, work, and teach. It personally scares me, worried that I won't be able to live in Eugene and already expensive city to pay to live and have a job that benefits future Oregonians.

If the bill passes and paid student teaching allows student teachers to have more energy to put into the classroom. This will also ensure that the state truly cares for students and education. With this bill the percentage of burnout should decrease. This will help make the student teaching to retired educator more ensured to stay in this occupation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Sincerely,
Brook Anderson**

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University of Oregon Aspiring Educator