

Submitter: Kathryn Pawelko

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB717

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

My name is Kathryn Pawelko, and I am a middle school educator in Hillsboro, OR. 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.

During my student teaching, I worked full time as a student teacher (planning lessons, working with my mentor teacher, talking to parents, etc.) while also paying for full time credits at my University, rent and groceries, transportation costs, etc. because I was limited in my working hours, this required me to budget significantly and increased stress (and debt) in my life.

Financial strain has a negative effect on new teachers and would be alleviated (while also addressing g the teacher shortage) by this bill.

Please support current and future educators by signing SB717.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Pawelko  
Hillsboro School District