

Dear Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr. Kenya Marquez , and I am Counselor at GreshamBarlow/exPPS & Reynolds SD. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 3652, which would make class size and caseloads a mandatory subject of collective bargaining in all Oregon schools.

Very limited attention to so many cases in need. That resulted in more mental issues and suffering of our students (and families), impacting in poor attention and ability to learn, and drop out. Official counselor's rate: 1:250, reality 1:500 (at least).

Educator burn out is real. Please show that someone care about us. School environment (made essentially by teachers) is needed for kids to learn academics, skills & values, emotionally grow, and learn and practice social skills and community values. Don't let the schools and teachers disappear!!!

3. Forcing us to be overloaded, unhumanize education and society. You are hurting vulnerable post pandemic students (and staff); we supposedly care also about minorities: we are not being able to help them or do accommodations, we are pushed to provider mass education, not beneficial for them or our society.

By supporting HB 3652, we can mitigate the debilitating effects of overcrowding on student-teacher relationships, academic engagement, and social-emotional learning, ultimately fostering a more equitable and supportive learning environment for all students, particularly those from historically marginalized communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kenya Marquez  
GreshamBarlow/exPPS & Reynolds SD