

Office of Representative Bobby Levy
House District 58

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

I write today in strong support of House Bill 3357, which takes a crucial step toward ensuring transparency and accountability in workplace safety for school employees across Oregon. As a Representative serving rural Oregon, I am committed to advocating for policies that prioritize the well-being of our educators and staff, particularly in rural communities where access to resources can be limited.

HB 3357 provides a structured, accessible, and effective method for recording and tracking workplace safety incidents in schools. By requiring the Oregon Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, to develop a standardized reporting system, this bill ensures that schools can accurately document and analyze workplace injuries. This data-driven approach will allow districts to identify trends, implement necessary safety measures, and ultimately foster a safer learning and working environment.

It is particularly important that our educators, who dedicate their careers to serving students, feel safe and supported in their workplaces. When incidents occur, staff should have confidence that the reporting process is simple, transparent, and leads to meaningful improvements. Furthermore, by minimizing duplicative reporting requirements, HB 3357 ensures that administrative burdens do not prevent schools from prioritizing safety and responsiveness.

For rural districts like those in Eastern Oregon, where educators often work in multi-functional roles, having access to a streamlined, publicly accessible reporting system will be invaluable.

I urge my colleagues to support HB 3357 and move this bill forward to protect and support Oregon's dedicated school employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bobby Levy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Representative Bobby Levy
House District 58