

March 3, 2025

Representative Courtney Neron
Chair, House Committee on Education

RE: Public Input for HB 3037

Dear Chair Neron and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Educational Collaborative, I am writing to support House Bill 3037. Our 30 members, which includes school and education service districts, are particularly interested in Section 2 of the proposed legislation which defines small school districts and provides mechanisms for a “*minimum grant amount for a state-funded grant when the grant is awarded to a small ADM school district*”.

As rationale for our support of HB 3037, we are providing the following example. The preliminary estimated allocations from the Oregon Department of Education for **Early Indicator and Intervention System* (EIS)** grants for districts for the 2025-2027 biennium are calculated at \$3.00 per student. For small districts in rural Oregon, this allocation is unrealistic in providing support aligned with the purpose of the grants. Specifically, for Arock (Malheur County) the award is estimated to be \$30.72; Juntura (Malheur County), \$21.00; Spray (Wheeler County), \$176.82; Adel (Lake County), \$29.97; Monument (Grant County), \$164.73; Frenchglen (Harney County), \$13.37; and Drewsey (Harney County), \$20.55.

While a suitable minimum grant amount for individual districts may be unrealistic given the total grant appropriation, a suggested alternative would be to provide a minimum to the education service districts (ESD) serving the very small districts. The minimum grant would need to be larger than the current projections (perhaps at least \$1000 per district) and would need to provide funds for the ESD to staff the program. However, such an approach would provide enough support for small districts working with their ESD to fulfill the intent of the EIS program.

We appreciate your efforts to provide adequate and equitable support to Oregon’s school and education service districts. We urge you to continue this support with the passage of HB 3037.

Sincerely,



Gary Peterson
Executive Director, Oregon Educational Collaborative

**EIS provides financial support and technical assistance to Oregon school districts and charter schools to develop and implement data analysis systems in order to identify, support, and monitor students who may be at risk of leaving school or not graduating on time.*