

My name is Michael Napoli, and I am a teacher at Portland Public Schools. 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.

I would like to highlight these important points to convince the legislature to support HB 3652.

- **Oregon ranks 8th highest in class sizes nationwide.** Large class sizes reduce student engagement, lower academic performance, and increase stress for both students and educators.
- **Smaller class sizes improve student outcomes.** Research, including the Tennessee STAR study, confirms that students in smaller classes perform better academically and are more likely to graduate.
- **Overcrowding hurts vulnerable students the most.** Students with disabilities, English Language Learners (ELLs), and low-income students benefit the most from smaller class sizes and lower student-to-teacher ratios.
- **Educator burnout is real.** Excessive caseloads and large class sizes contribute to high turnover rates and negatively impact student learning.
- **This bill ensures class size and caseloads are negotiated.** Educators should have the ability to advocate for reasonable class sizes and caseloads at the bargaining table.
- **No cost, no mandate.** HB 3652 does not require specific class size or caseload reductions—just a fair conversation in contract negotiations.
- **Public and educator support is strong.** Surveys consistently show that reducing class sizes is a top priority for parents, students, and educators.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Napoli

Teacher at Portland Public Schools