



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

RE: Support HB 3012
House Committee on Rules

03/03/2025

Chair Bowman, Vice Chair Drazan, Vice Chair Pham and members of the House Committee on Rules,

My name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO. We represent over 300,000 workers and their families and strive to be a voice for all workers in the legislative process.

We believe that students deserve a voice in any process that directly impacts their wellbeing, safety and environment. A cornerstone of Unions is democracy, compromise, and working for a better future, something this policy encapsulates. Moreover, having students engage in voting gives them good preparedness for engaging in democracy for years to come.

Many people in our communities are grappling with feeling unsafe at school, a place that should never feel that way. We can take a simple step to allow students to feel heard and engaged. We can ensure that those running for school board positions have to truly listen to students, to speak with them, and to understand that they are oftentimes the ones who know what is truly needed.

Newark, New Jersey already has this provision and their students are preparing for their first vote. Engaging teens in civic action is one of the best things we can do for our state and country, the impacts it has on their ability to feel heard could ensure they remain voters for life.

We strongly encourage your support of HB 3012.

Thank you,
Tan Perkins
OR AFL-CIO