

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

My name is Jamie Sedda, and I am a school counselor at an elementary school in Gresham-Barlow. 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.

The American School Counselor Association recommends a ratio of 250 students per school counselor. However, I have had over 500 students on my caseload. This has been especially challenging given the demographics I serve. My students have been underserved both currently and historically.

- 76% of my students identify as BIPOC.
- 68% are economically disadvantaged.
- 45% are emerging English speakers.
- 10% are houseless.

It is neither equitable nor fair to my students that, despite their significant needs, there is only one school counselor at my school.

It is impossible to adequately support my students given the challenges faced by our community. This situation is not fair to me, and—more importantly—it is not fair to my students.

It is simply impossible for a single school counselor to holistically support 500 students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamie Sedda  
Gresham-Barlow