

3/5/2025

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

For the record, my name is Alice Breneman, I am an instructional assistant at the North Marion School District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 3357.

As a steward for my local OSEA Chapter, I hear stories from all our staff in district buildings on how hard it is to report injuries that are attained directly from students. Staff get kicked, have chairs thrown at them, get bitten and verbally abused daily. For some, this causes them to lose sleep, and they are repeatedly told that “the kid can’t help it” or “it’s what they do” – “we don’t need to report this” – that concerns me since we have such a hard time hiring people in the SPED Department. We have lots of hires that will do it for a while then they will ask to be moved. People get shamed and/or discouraged to fill out the incident reports.

HB 3357 would bring light to exactly how many incidents we have in our public schools every day. This might change the training and support for staff and make schools safer for our educators and students. That is why I am asking you to vote yes on HB 3357. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Alice Breneman

North Marion School District, Instructional Assistant