

**Testimony in Support of HB 3357**  
**Oregon School Employees Association**  
**March 3, 2025**

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

For the record, my name is Teri Jones and I am a Librarian in Coos Bay, OR. I also serve as the Oregon School Employees Association State Vice President and am proud to speak today on behalf of the over 25,000 classified education employees we represent across all 36 Oregon counties.

House Bill 3357 would improve safety reporting protocols for school employees and address the safety concerns our members face in their worksites everyday. OSEA strongly supports HB 3357, because education workers like myself care about students. We believe in education as a vehicle to improve lives. But we did not go into this work to sustain constant injuries or be gaslit into believing that our injuries don't matter. This bill is a necessary step in ensuring transparency and equity across the state in how unsafe educational worksites are reported and tracked.

As I mentioned, OSEA represents more than 25,000 classified school employees across Oregon, including custodians, bus drivers, instructional assistants, food service workers, and many others who serve as the backbone of our education system. Every day, our members work tirelessly to create safe and supportive learning environments. Unfortunately, workplace hazards, including physical injuries and unsafe working conditions, create massive turnover in roles that are already hard to recruit and retain for.

Currently, the lack of a standardized reporting system across school districts results in inconsistent data collection and an inability to effectively track trends in school workplace safety.

Classified employees are essential to the daily operations of our schools, and their safety must be a priority. By passing HB 3357, Oregon can take a significant step forward in getting a full picture of where the schools are doing a great job of keeping educators safe and where we need to do better.

OSEA urges your support for HB 3357 and thanks you for your commitment to workplace safety in our schools. We welcome any opportunity to collaborate on improving the well-being of our classified educators and students we serve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Teri Jones**  
**State Vice President**  
**Oregon School Employees Association**