

3//2/2025 OSEA Legislative Testimony

Good Afternoon Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and committee members. For the record, my name is Lisa Jenkins-Easton. I am the full time OSEA Chapter 1 President, representing 1100 classified workers in Eugene 4J School District. When I am not serving as President, I work as a scheduler at Sheldon High School.

I am here to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3357.

In my daily connections with my colleagues, I am constantly hearing and helping to problem-solve safety concerns staff are experiencing in our schools. My members express frustration in the lack of time to report, and inconsistent practice in how reporting happens in our district. We need to normalize reporting in our schools, without judgment, without violating anyone's privacy, on paid time and use the data that could be collected to help ensure we give targeted support to schools and special programs. We need this tool to help correct staffing levels that are based on student need, rather than a 1 size fits all approach. Student outcomes matter and we are the support staff who are assigned to support our student's goals.

Classified employees worry about the impact reporting has on their students and their own physical and mental well being. It often means difficult conversations with their licensed colleagues and supervisors, that often results in blame. It feels like the weight of the world, and it is. Our district cannot retain valuable staff, and students lose the educators they have built trusting and supporting relationships with.

If an injury from a student isn't deemed serious enough for a work comp claim, my members are forced to go unpaid or deplete their own sick leave, instead of its intended use for their own personal illness or that of a family member.

I am asking you all to vote YES on House Bill 3357. Thank you all for your time today and service to our communities.