

3/3/25

Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Julie Meraz and I am a member of the Oregon School Employees Association. I am a Senior Clerical for the Regional educators network at Willamette ESD and I am the chapter 95 Co-President, Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on HB 3357 to create a universal safety reporting system in our schools.

For the past years with the number of students in IFSP and social emotional needs in our typical classroom, classified staff have been experiencing an excessive amount of injuries, not only physical, but to their personal belongings, our staff are being worn out due to the shortage of staff and proper training. When we request support to the district and suggest other training options the answer we get is "where is the data"?

We currently don't have a generalized system to report staff incident reports, we can choose to fill out an accident report if we choose, in order to that that we need to search for the form on the website, or reach out to HR that would respond within two business day and most of the time with the answer, " you will find the form on the website"

Having a generalized reporting system will reduce the barriers educators currently face in reporting these injuries and empower educators to make their voices heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today, we respectfully urge an aye vote on HB 3357.

Sincerely,

Julie Meraz

REN Senior clerical.