

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

My name is Lauren Goemaat, and I am High school science teacher at Beaverton School District. 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.

As a science teacher, large class sizes have a constant impact on the quality of my students learning. When there are too many students in the classroom, it is impossible to run science labs safely. I have 7 lab tables in my classroom. They would comfortably fit 4 students per lab table, 28 students in a class. In some periods I have over 40 students, resulting in 5-6 students crowded around the lab table. It is too difficult to move around the room, to support students, to be able to actually see the lab tables and see if they are performing their labs safely. There's not enough time in the day to help support 200+ students, plus do my planning and give meaningful feedback to all of them.

When there amount of students in a class period goes down, the amount of time the teacher can spend with each student goes. More time spent together results in a more meaningful relationship and better learning outcomes. Students get to feel like their teacher truly knows them, cares about them, and cares about their success.

Supporting HB 3652 will guarantee a brighter future for Oregon's students and teachers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Goemaat
Beaverton School District