

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

My name is Kendra Ehrhart, and I am High School Teacher/ELA at Beaverton. 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.

While I truly believe I work in one of the best districts in the state, my one frustration has been with class sizes. Classes sizes of 40 students have become normal or average. At one point I had a class of 52 and a colleague of mine had to move into the lecture hall because he had a class size in the 60s. With that number, there are students who cannot get the help, feedback, or attention they need to be successful. This year, I am fortunate to have a couple of smaller classes, and in those classes, I have no students who are failing. I know my students and their individual needs. The contrast to the larger classes I have grown accustomed to has been startling.

This bill would help prioritize class size, which is something I know our students, educators, parents and communities believe is of the utmost importance.

Please show that you understand how much of an impact class size has on our students by supporting HB 3652.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kendra Ehrhart
Beaverton