

Mission: FACT Oregon empowers families, youth, and communities to navigate disability systems, advocating together for disability justice and policy change so that people with disabilities have what they need to thrive at home, in school, and in their communities.

March 10, 2025

Chair Courtney Neron Vice-Chair April Dobson and Vice-Chair Emily McIntire Members of the House Committee on Education

Support for HB 2508 – Electronic Student Records

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

FACT Oregon is a family-led nonprofit that supports families, youth with disabilities, and partners in holding high expectations, navigating special education and disability systems, and advocating for the supports needed to thrive at home, in school, and in the community. Since 2012, we have served as Oregon's state and federally designated Parent Training and Information Center (PTI) for special education.

Accurate and timely student records are essential for students, families, and educators. They ensure informed decision-making, continuity of services, and accountability in education. For students with disabilities, timely access to records is critical, as it directly impacts their ability to receive necessary supports and services without delay.

FACT Oregon strongly supports HB 2508, which would establish a standardized electronic student data system across Oregon's schools. The outdated current system creates barriers that disproportionately impact students with disabilities, mobile students, and families navigating multiple systems.

Delays in transferring IEPs, 504 Plans, and assessment results often mean students lose access to services when changing schools. Families are frequently required to resubmit paperwork, while educators struggle to obtain complete records in a timely manner, leading to service gaps and unnecessary reassessments.

HB 2508 will:

- Ensure that student records, including IEPs and 504 Plans, transfer immediately between districts.
- Reduce reliance on paper files, preventing lost or incomplete records.
- Support highly mobile students, including those in foster care or experiencing homelessness, by making their educational history readily accessible.
- Minimize redundant paperwork for families, easing administrative burdens.

This bill is not just about data—it is about ensuring equity, access, and efficiency in education. Oregon has an opportunity to invest in a modern student data system that will reduce administrative costs and improve student outcomes for years to come.

I urge your **yes vote on HB 2508** to ensure accurate, accessible student records that support timely and informed educational decisions. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Christy Reese, Executive Director, FACT Oregon