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On Behalf Of:
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Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2953

I am writing as both an Oregon public school teacher and a parent of public school students. My firsthand experience has shown me the challenges created by an increasing population of students with special needs while resources continue to diminish.

The inclusion of students with significant behavioral challenges in general education classrooms has created substantial safety concerns. I have witnessed a troubling rise in violent incidents in our schools in recent years. These unsafe conditions make learning difficult for all students, which may contribute to Oregon's poor performance in national test rankings.

Teachers struggle to deliver effective instruction when they must simultaneously manage classroom safety concerns related to students with extreme behaviors. Additional support and resources for students with special needs would benefit the entire educational community. This investment would create safer, more productive learning environments for all students while ensuring those with special needs receive appropriate services.