COURTNEY NERON STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 26



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of HB 2448

March 13, 2025

Vice Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Walters, Vice Chair Reschke, and Members of the House Revenue Committee,

Thank you for reading my testimony for House Bill 2448, which **increases critical funding for students with high-cost disabilities.** This bill is one component of our package of bills designed to ensure that Oregon's education system equitably serves all students, particularly those who require specialized and intensive support services.

The High Cost Disabilities Fund is a vital resource that helps schools provide individualized instruction, therapies, and other necessary targeted supports. HB 2448 recognizes this need and strengthens Oregon's commitment to our students by increasing the *annual* transfer to the High Cost Disabilities Fund from the State School Fund from \$55 million to \$155 million—a much-needed and long-overdue adjustment to fully fund the account.

Additionally, the bill increases the General Fund appropriation to the State School Fund from \$150 million to \$200 million. **This funding is not only a budgetary decision—it is a statement of values.** It ensures that students with disabilities are properly served and that districts are equipped to fulfill their legal obligations to serve student rights.

Without these increased investments, schools and families will continue to face impossible choices. Fully funding the High Cost Disability Fund is a critical component to provide all students with the resources they deserve. I urge your support for HB2448 and students with high cost disabilities.

Sincerely,

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