



OREGON EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE

March 17, 2025

Representative Courtney Neron
Chair, House Committee on Education

RE: Public Input for HB 3360

Dear Chair Neron and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Educational Collaborative, I am writing to support House Bill 3360 to require that funds from the corporate income and excise tax kicker be used for the funding of school construction and maintenance projects and infrastructure improvements. We recognize that in order to be implemented, voter approval of House Joint Resolution 13 at the next general election will be necessary. Nonetheless, our 30 members, which include school and education service districts, believe that this is an appropriate method to provide financial resources into the School Facility Improvement Fund. Safe, healthy and high-quality school facilities are critically important if we are to improve the learning opportunities for our students.

Many of our members are in rural districts or in more remote parts of the state, including Grant, Harney, Lake, Malheur and Wheeler Counties, where the option to provide local funds for school construction or renovation grants is a significant, if not insurmountable, challenge. This is due to the relatively limited amount of property value within many of these districts when compared to the actual cost of construction. As a result, we do not believe that the qualifying criteria identified in HB 3360, Section 2 (4) will be problematic for our districts.

We appreciate your efforts to provide safe, healthy and high-quality school facilities for the students in Oregon's school districts. We urge you to continue this support with the passage of HB 3360.

Sincerely,

Gary Peterson
Executive Director, Oregon Educational Collaborative