



To: House Committee on Education
From: Oregon Education Association
Re: Support for HB 3360 (2025)

Members of the House Committee on Education,

The Oregon Education Association represents over 42,000 educators across Oregon, and across the education spectrum (from pre-K through community colleges); and we support HB 3360.

Decades of under, or barely, funding education has left the school districts of the state with billions of dollars in deferred maintenance. As hoped, most districts have prioritized in-class instruction. However, after decades, these deferred costs are catching up with districts; and the only option to fix these issues is through passing general obligation bonds. For most districts, that isn't an option.

In the last four years, only 76 districts have attempted to pass a bond (38.5% of the state's 197 districts). [\[OSBA GOB Tracker\]](#) More than a third of the bond measures districts presented to voters during that time failed. With such a high failure rate, it is not surprising that an overwhelming majority of districts across the state don't even attempt to pass bonds to update their aging infrastructure. Of course, the result Oregon's current system is that students suffer.

Roseburg is a prime example. Knowing that their infrastructure was borderline unsafe, the board made the brave attempt to put a bond on the May 2022 ballot. [It lost by a ten percent margin.](#) Later, [just this last September, the school district had to close schools because they were too warm for students, posing a safety concern.](#) ([Note research on the impact of heat on student learning.](#))

At the same time, the state legislature has repeatedly used the Corporate Kicker to back general fund dollars out of the State School Fund (SSF). While an understandable urge in order to shore up funding in other parts of the state budget, it does mean that the legislature has learned to rely on one-time funds – as the corporate kicker is not a guaranteed form of income – for covering costs that roll-up biennium after biennium. Budgeting best practice is generally: use one-time funds for one-time expenses, such as infrastructure investments.

HB 3360 would solve both of these issues, prioritizing critical one-time needs with the one-time funds to help fund them. Ultimately it is the soundest budgeting use for the corporate kickers, and an urgent need for the learning environment of our students.

OEA urges your support for HB 3360!