

Submitter: Ezra Weiss

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5515

Dear Joint Subcommittee On Education,

My name is Ezra Weiss and I am a community member and parent in Portland. I am writing to you in support of SB 5515, and calling on the state to fully fund the Regional Inclusive Services with \$122.4 million for the next biennium and Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education at \$432.8 million investments.

My son is autistic, and the Regional Inclusive Services funding has a huge impact on him. With services like adaptive physical education, speech therapists, occupational therapists, augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) specialists, and paraeducators, my son is able to be successful in the classroom. A number of these services have been cut back in the past year in our district, and we feel every cut personally. These services make education possible for my son and allow him to thrive in the classroom. We hope to see these services fully funded and brought back to his district. For this reason, I hope you will support SB 5515 and fully fund the Regional Inclusive Services at \$122.4 million and Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education at \$432.8 million. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ezra Weiss
Portland, Oregon