

Submitter: Alicia Infante
On Behalf Of: HCU4671
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3076

Good Afternoon Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Chotzen & Wallen, and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Alicia Infante, I reside in Beaverton, I am employed by Hillsboro School District and I have been a classified educator for about a decade. I work alongside teachers, support students, and I witness firsthand what our kids go through every day.

Let me be clear, kids cannot learn when they are scared. They hear the news. They sit through the drills that remind them that, at any moment, their school could be next. This is not education. This is trauma.

In my current role, I teach social-emotional learning. That means I hear directly from students about how they're feeling. And some of the things I've heard are deeply disturbing. No kindergartner should be asking me what they should do if the "bad guy" finds them. No third grader should be casually discussing where they would hide if a shooter came into their classroom. These are children! children who should be learning how to share, how to be kind, how to dream about their futures. Instead, they are preparing for the unthinkable.

And I'll be honest, I am scared too. I show up every day, responsible for other people's children, knowing that if the worst happens, I am expected to act. To protect. To put their lives ahead of mine. And as much as I love and care for my students, I can't ignore the terrifying thought that haunts me during every drill: If I have to step in, will I make it home to my own kids? Will my children lose their parent because I had to save someone else's? That is the impossible weight every educator carries. One we should have never been asked to bear.

This Bill seeks to strengthen safety measures. These are not abstract ideas—these are lifesaving measures that directly impact our classrooms. How is this even up for debate?

In this state, we now have a SUPERMAJORITY! That means there is no excuse for failing to act. So let's be honest about what that means; it's an active choice if we let this crisis continue.

Our kids deserve better and I urge this committee to do better.

Thank you.