



Date: March 23, 2025

To: Joint Committee on Information Management and Technology

From: Adrienne Anderson, Government Relations Counsel, OSBA

Subject: Support for HB 3228

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Co-Chair Woods and Nathanson, Members of the committee,

The Oregon School Boards Association represents all 197 school districts in the state, 19 Education Service Districts, and community colleges. OSBA offers our full support to HB 3228.

Cyber-attacks are an ever-increasing concern for all of our school districts, ESDs, and community colleges. However, as insurance rates continue to increase, school districts are put in a difficult position to prioritize the needs of our students in the classroom. Some districts are unable to afford the costs to upgrade their computer systems to comply with insurance standards and they are certainly not able to afford the costs of a potential cyber-attack. Many of our small and rural school districts also do not have dedicated IT staff to help guard against and prepare for a cyber-attack.

HB 3228 would give school districts, ESDs, and community college additional funds outside of the State School Fund. Establishing the Oregon Cybersecurity Resilience Fund to distribute funds to public bodies to assist with meeting cybersecurity insurance requirements and preparing, planning for, mitigating, responding to and recovering from a cyberattack is a crucial need for our school districts. It will provide them with the tools that many of them are currently unable to afford given the continued strain on school budgets.

As there continues to be more uncertainty at the federal level and fears of data breaches, HB 3228 will help mitigate some of those fears. I urge this committee to vote YES on HB 3228.