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Date: March 26, 2025  
To: Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
From: Morgan Allen, COSA  
Subject: SB 5515 - ODE Grant in Aid Budget

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Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Ruiz, and members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education,

My name is Morgan Allen and I am here today on behalf of the 3000 members of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators to provide support for the ODE Grant-In-Aid Budget requests.

Especially given the conversation about student outcomes and accountability this Session, our members want ODE to be funded at a level that allows them to provide supports and technical assistance to school districts and ESD's. The agency needs the resources to do the work we are asking them to take on regarding Accountability.

COSA and our members are also proud to be part of a broad based coalition of parents, advocates for students with disabilities, educators, non-profit organizations, and education partners that have come together around a common agenda to fully fund Special Education services this Session. **Two of those critical budgets are in Senate Bill 5515:**

- **Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE)** provides services to babies, toddlers and preschoolers with disabilities. We support the Adequate Service Level request of \$432.8 million in the next biennium to provide a basic service level for the 15,000 students in the program – that's \$24 million above what's proposed in the Governor's budget.
- **Regional Inclusive Services** provides specialized services to students with specific disabilities like autism, who are blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, deafblind or who have orthopedic impairments or traumatic brain injuries. The program needs \$122.4 million for the next biennium to provide adequate services to the 15,000 K-12 students in the program – a \$50 million increase to the Governor's proposed budget.

Additionally, we want to call attention to the CSL for **High School Success** of \$361.8 million.



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The GRB recommends a reduction to HSS, bringing the total available for distribution to about \$343 million. We support restoring this budget allocation to the CSL \$361.8 million.

I also want to call out support for two budget packages:

- Package 102, for the Office of Finance and Information Technology's \$2.1 million request for the State School Fund Software Modernization. That system manages billions of dollars and needs to be modernized and updated.
- Package 302, which allocates about \$185 million to the OSCIM bond matching program.

Thank you for your time today. I would be happy to answer any questions.