

Submitter: Martin Valentine  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Just over 2 years ago my wife landed her dream job in Oregon. Being an experienced, credentialed Math teacher with over a decade of experience as a successful math teacher in public schools, I told her to take the job because 'I'm a highly qualified math teacher eager to work in a public school, I can get a job anywhere.' Flash forward to March, and despite my glowing evaluations, strong reputation amongst the staff and students at Riverside High School, and data to prove my impact, I was notified that I would be laid off at the end of this school year. Now looking for work, I attended the Oregon Professional Educator Fair in Salem in March. And while I received several offers from schools in California, Washington and Utah at the fair, me and ten other applicants were scrambling to get an interview at the one school currently hiring within an hour of Wilsonville. I know I am an excellent teacher, and I want to be able to serve students in the community where I live. Please fund out schools, and allow districts across the state to offer appropriate class size. Because right now it appears what I should've said to my wife was 'I'm a highly qualified math teacher eager to work in a public school, I can get a job anywhere EXCEPT Oregon.'