

Submitter:

Emily Creel

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2596

Dear Chair & Members of the Senate Committee,

Re: Support for HB 2596 - Interstate Compact for School Psychologists

As a licensed school psychologist working for Northwest Regional ESD, I write to strongly express my support for HB 2596, the bill to adopt the Interstate Compact for School Psychologists (ICSP). I serve a small rural district at the grade, middle and high school levels. Rural districts can often be harder places to find and recruit qualified professionals in the field of school psychology as it is hard enough to recruit and retain school psychologists across the state. There are limited training programs in Oregon and none within 80 miles of where I serve. When school psychologists retire or move, our ESD recruits far and wide to provide school psychologists to 20 school districts across four counties, including recruiting out of state. With the ICSP, the simplified licensure process for qualified professionals coming from other states would allow Oregon districts (and ESDs) to recruit skilled school psychologists who could easily transition into working in Oregon schools. This would benefit both parties and ultimately benefit Oregon students. I urge your support of HB 2596 to reduce a barrier for the shortage of school psychologists in Oregon.

Warm Regards,

Emily Creel, Ed.S, NCSP
School Psychologist