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Dr. Charlene Williams
Director of the Department of Education

HB 3038 A: Oregon Department of Education Omnibus Bill
Senate Education Committee
April 23, 2025

Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair Weber and members of the Senate Education Committee, my name is Zoe Larmer and I am the Government Relations Director for the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 3038 A, which will help ensure clarity in our education system and improve upon educational services provided throughout Oregon. These statute changes update outdated language, and create clearer statutory guidance for educators, districts and ODE in our work to support students.

HB 3038 A contains largely technical changes, including:

Making changes to STEM statutes.

- Clarifying language on how STEM Hubs and grants function

Updating the Recovery Schools statutes to reflect practice.

- Cleaning up how Recovery School funding interacts with the distribution of the State School Fund when the approved Recovery School is a public charter school
- Addressing Recovery School responsibilities for Special Education when the approved recovery school is a public charter school

Making changes to Oregon School for the Deaf laws.

- Permitting Deaf and Hard of Hearing students who are on a section 504 plan to attend Oregon School for the Deaf

Clarifying statutes on Emergency Drills and Instructions.

- Clarifies in statute what should be in an emergency plan as currently required by statute. This change would join associated requirements in the same plan. This includes the requirements for the Communicable Disease Management Plan, the Medical Emergency plan and the associated plans for the required safety threat drills.
- Updates drill and “safety threat” language to national, common-language protocols.



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The bill was amended in House Education to make a few small language changes to the STEM statutes, correct an unintended change made regarding section 504 plans, and to further clarify the drill and “safety threat” language.

None of the changes in HB 3038 A carry a fiscal impact for ODE. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments, and we welcome any questions you may have. We urge your support of HB 3038 A.

Respectfully submitted,

Zoe Larmer

Government Relations Director