

Submitter:

Mindy Pesicek

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB5006

I urge you to pass House Bill 2953 to remove the cap on Special Education funding, so that all students can access the free and appropriate public education they are guaranteed. As a special education teacher in Portland Public Schools, I witness every day the urgent need for more resources to support students with disabilities. During my spring break in 2023, I met with Senator Lew Frederick and shared the critical importance of lifting this cap. He expressed his support but emphasized the importance of community backing. I have since spoken with my neighbors, and they unanimously agree “the cap must be lifted. Oregon must invest in our students by ensuring school districts have the funding to meet the needs of every learner. Please act now to remove the special education cap. Our students can't afford to wait any longer.