



Date: April 28, 2025
To: House Education Committee
From: Parasa Chanramy, COSA and Stacy Michaelson, OSBA
Subject: Testimony in Support of [Senate Bill 315](#)

Good Afternoon, Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the House Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and Oregon School Boards Association, we submit this letter of support for Senate Bill 315.

As members of the [Chronic Absenteeism Workgroup](#), we want to thank both Sen. Suzanne Weber and Rep. Hoa Nguyen for co-facilitating the workgroup, and to all of the workgroup members who dedicated their time, expertise, and insight in this process during the interim.

Attendance is critical to student achievement and success. A student is considered chronically absent when they miss 10 percent or more of the school year for any reason (that's about 18 school days, or roughly 2 days per month during a school year).

Across the research, [learnings from other states](#), and [Oregon attendance efforts](#), there are a number of core elements that are important to reducing chronic absenteeism.

- Students and families are at the center
- Positive engagement and conditions for learning
- Shared accountability and strategic cross-sector partnerships
- Adequate and sustainable resources
- Capacity building and multi-tiered systems of support
- Actionable data to inform improvement efforts

Senate Bill 315 is one of the bills coming out of our workgroup process. It mirrors Section 8 in HB 3199 which serves as an omnibus to continue to build upon, and improve, Oregon's attendance efforts by combining several issues and needs identified by the workgroup.

We believe that SB 315, along with [HB 3199](#), will continue to help build on – and enhance – current attendance efforts across the state.

SB 315 would streamline the coding and reporting of attendance data. The bill requires ODE to make recommendations and develop best practices related to: how districts respond to student absences that exceed 10 days, and how to code and report absences more consistently with consideration of district size and geographic location.



Examples include: students participating in hospital school programs (complementary to [HB 3063](#)); students missing school due to medical appointments, especially in rural and remote areas; students participating in extended family and cultural trips.

We also see SB 315 as complementary to efforts outlined in [HB 2508](#) and [SB 312](#) around education data standards – which are designed to:

- Increase efficiency and data accuracy for schools, ESDs, and the state;
- Improve action in data for addressing chronic absenteeism and academic needs;
- Support ODE in modernizing state reporting – and access to data – for education leaders, policymakers, and community partners

These efforts, along with securing stable and adequate resources for students, staffing, schools, and partnerships are foundational.

Thank you again for your time today. We urge you to vote YES on Senate Bill 315.