## ATTENTION: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND WORKPLACE STANDARDS

**RE: OPPOSITION FOR HB 3789** 

MAY 8, 2025

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chair Elmer, Vice-Chair Muñoz, Members of the Committee;

My name is Michelle Walker, and I'm a parent of a public school student here in Oregon. I am writing in strong opposition to HB 3789.

Over the past several years, I have witnessed firsthand how Oregon's teachers' union has prioritized politics over students. Critical decisions were made that left children behind, silenced parent voices, and ignored the real needs of families—particularly those who dared to question or disagree with the union's political agenda. HB 3789 is yet another example of the same political machinery at work—this time attempting to silence any voice that offers teachers an alternative.

Let's be clear: this bill isn't about protecting workers from fraud. It's about disarming organizations that inform public employees of their rights and offer them a choice. It's about eliminating competition and forcing educators to align with an institution that may not reflect their values, concerns, or priorities. As a parent, I find that deeply troubling. Teachers, like all public employees, deserve the freedom to hear all their options and make informed decisions for themselves.

If unions are truly confident in the value they provide, they should welcome comparison—not suppress it. If membership is declining, they should ask themselves why and work to better serve their members—not weaponize the law against dissent. Monopolizing the ability to represent educators, while using that platform to push political agendas and silence alternatives, should concern everyone who cares about fairness and transparency in our public institutions.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3789. Oregon's educators—and the students and families who rely on them—deserve better than this attempt to entrench political power at the expense of open dialogue and true representation.

Respectfully,

Michelle Walker Lafayette, Oregon