

May 8th, 2025

Chair Taylor, Vice Chair Bonham, members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Sella Bemrose and I am a member of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA). I am the Zone III Director on the OSEA Board and I am the Chapter President of North Santiam Chapter 122 in Stayton, Oregon. I work at Stayton Elementary School as a Special Programs Assistant in the strategic reading program. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on HB 3789.

We have seen a significant increase in 3rd party/anti-union groups, pretending to be OSEA, using school mail systems and sending out mailers that look like they come from OSEA - promising people are owed a \$700 and up to a \$1200 rebate. I myself, along with several members in my chapter, as well as members all across the state of Oregon have been targeted by groups pretending to be OSEA. The letters say "Immediate response to this notice Requested", "URGENT NOTICE", "This letter is to inform you that your OSEA membership un-enrollment period may be approaching" and "This opportunity is time sensitive due to language included in your union's membership card".

All of these statements are lies! OSEA does not have an un-enrollment period, there is nothing on our membership card that states anything like that, and the member will not get a rebate!

All of these statements are very confusing for members, especially for my bilingual speakers. Members have come to me and said that OSEA sent them a letter that they were going to lose the Union membership, so they filled out the letter but then decided to check with me, their Chapter President, first. When I tell them it is a scam by Union busting organizations, they thank me greatly and tell me that they don't want to lose their Union membership! In February, my District Office and my school, together got 30 of these mailers to both addresses. Some of the names were of people who have never worked there.

This is happening all across the state of Oregon!

Every few months the OSEA state office receives a big manilla envelope from 3rd party/anti-union groups containing several forms. Of those forms, there are only about a quarter of them that are actually OSEA members!

We all know the value that a Union brings to the working class, and we must acknowledge how these unsavory business practices hurt working class Oregonians. HB 3789 not only protects Union workers, but it protects Oregon's values!

We respectfully urge a yes vote on HB 3789!

Sincerely,

Sella Bemrose
OSEA Zone III Director
North Santiam Chapter 122 President
OSEA member
Special Programs Assistant @ Stayton Elementary School