5/14/2025

Re: HB 2596 re: School Psychologist Interstate Licensure Compact

Dear Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair Weber, and Senate Education Committee Members,

I have been a school psychologist in Oregon districts for a quarter of a century and am a past president of the Oregon School Psychologists Association.

School psychologists are some of the most highly trained educational professionals employed in our schools serving students and families. It is typically a 3-year, full time graduate degree following a typical 4 year undergraduate program. While we are usually associated with special education evaluation and eligibility procedures, we are trained in mental health supports including suicide prevention, intervention and postvention skills. We are also trained in using data and evidence-based practices to improve student outcomes, and to promote positive systems changes.

While districts can often engage in recruitment activities across the country, licensure requirements that vary state-by-state remain a barrier for those wishing to move to Oregon. The <u>Interstate Compact for</u> <u>School Psychologists</u> is intended to facilitate multi-state practice, license portability, and reducing barriers to improved services in underserved areas.



The costs to become a signer to this compact are expected to be minimal, and would not go into effect until at least 7 states become signers, but this could support efforts to attract qualified professionals to support our students.

Thank you in advance for your support!

The ICSP Model

Justin Potts, MS NCSP