

Submitter:

Erin Treece

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB2900

I moved to Oregon in 2013 with 8 years of experience as an educator. The year 2013 was a volatile time for education with lots of cuts happening. I managed to get a job, but soon realized I did not have the most competent or ethical supervisor. I lived 3 years in fear of the perception that I was stepping out of line due to the fact that I could be unrenewed in my contract if my terrible administrator chose to recommend it.

In that time, my students did not get me at my best. I held out having tough conversations with behaviorally challenged kids that could have benefitted from my expertise and experience. I was afraid to bring my best self to work because I often did not agree with my administrator's ideas around punishing and shaming students who were struggling behaviorly.

I understand the need for a probationary period in a profession. However, three years is a long time to have a master degreed professional afraid to bring their best self to the profession they have trained for for years. One year is enough time for a skilled administrator to determine the effectiveness and ability of a teacher. Please support the shortening of the probationary period of teachers in Oregon. It's what's best for teachers and for students.