

Submitter: Chloe Cooper
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1572
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Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1572 (oppose)

Dear Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair Weber, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Chloe, I work in disability services and I oppose Bill 1572. I previously worked as a paraeducator at Portland Public Schools in the intensive skills classroom working with students with intellectual and developmental disabilities for 2 years. This bill threatens equal access to education for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The term 'repeated interference' is vague and would lead to bad interpretations and enforcement against students with unintentional dysregulated behaviors. The addition of temporarily removing students from the classroom without an identified time frame, would lead to large gaps in learning and consistency in schedule and routine. These extreme consequences deeply threaten the student's ability to learn. A student's behavior is communicating an unmet need or want for additional support and punishment should not be the first response. For the safety of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, please vote no on this bill.