



Date: February 18, 2026

To: Senate Finance and Revenue

From: Enrique Farrera, President Oregon Education Association

Subject: SB 1586 with the -4 amendment

My name is Enrique Farerra and I am proud to be the elected President of the Oregon Education Association. I am here opposition to SB 1586.

The Oregon Education Association represents over 42,000 educators across the state of Oregon. The membership of our union spans every aspect of education. We represent educators in from pre-kindergarten, K-12 and Community colleges. These members have diverse roles from licensed teachers and specialists, classified/education support professionals (ESPs), community college faculty, bus drivers, school nurses, to counselors and more. In short, our members are the ones who ensure students arrive to school safely, are fed, supported in crisis, teach in front of classrooms, and work in difficult conditions to support students and our communities every day.

Our union's mission is to unite the public education profession and advocate for those professionals to ensure quality public education for students in Oregon. Our state has a funding crisis we are facing down with the impacts of the tax breaks to corporations and the wealthy from the federal HR 1. Throughout the last many months we have clearly asked the legislature to choose working families, students, schools and essential services over tax breaks for businesses and billionaires.

We oppose SB 1586 as drafted because it chooses businesses over schools. Section 11 of the bill makes a significant change by saying that zone sponsor and a business firm are no longer required to provide for a school support fee to be paid in lieu of the property taxes that would otherwise be imposed on the business firm's facility for each year of exemption after the fifth year.

Oregonians are struggling to pay for basic necessities every day. The affordability crisis is front and center in our lives and funding our schools is one of the key ways we support our communities when they are struggling. This is a step backwards and our legislature should be advocating for corporations to pay their fair share and supporting schools, not making it



easier and likely that corporations will shirk any duty to support schools by making these fees permissive instead of mandatory.

The -4 amendment deletes this section which we appreciate, thank you. Our concern remains for this bill and the goals behind it. It takes Oregon in the wrong direction.