

To: House Committee on Education

Re: HB 2942

I'm writing to ask you to oppose HB 2942.

I serve as a school board member for the Phoenix-Talent School district and feel that the crimes under consideration to be removed from the list should not be removed.

Finding the best educators and staff for our schools is important because these trusted adults have long-term impact on Oregon's best resource, our children.

The crimes suggested to be removed from the list are not for possession, but of unlawful manufacture and delivery of controlled substances including heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine. In manufacture and delivery there is intent to create more and sell or trade. There is intent for continued harm. The consequence of being convicted of one of these crimes should continue to make a person ineligible for hire in one of Oregon's schools.

I feel that by removing the protection of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission puts undue pressure on individual school districts in consideration of employment.

I urge you to oppose HB 2942.