

May 8, 2013

Representative Betty Komp  
900 Court St. NE, H-273  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representative Komp:

I support funding for HB 3233, proficiency education.

I have spent my career of 40 years studying the classroom assessment process and teaching teachers how to use assessment productively to promote (not merely grade) student learning. During that time, I have come to understand that the assessments that help student in this regard are those that tell them know they are progressing in their mastery of each individual proficiency or learning target as they are learning. When this kind of criterion-referenced assessment yields results that are communicated to students effectively it can keep them believing that success is within reach if they keep striving. Research conducted around the world over the past 30 years reveals that, when teachers manage proficiency-based assessment effectively in this manner, the result can be achievement score gains of as much as half to three quarter of a standard deviation. In fact, one researcher contends that we could quite literally double the rate of student learning with the consistent implementation of this kind of classroom assessment process.

Please support this bill. Thank you for your service to our community.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Stiggins, Ph.D.  
5526 Yorkshire Place  
Lake Oswego OR 97035  
503-697-7639