



Oregon School Employees Association

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**Senate Workforce and House Business and Labor Committees
Testimony in Support of SB 454 and HB 2005
Tim Stoelb
President of the Oregon School Employees Association
February 16, 2015**

Chair and members of the committee, on behalf of the 20,000 members of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA), I urge the members of the Senate Workforce and House Business and Labor Committees to support the paid sick leave provisions within SB 454 and HB 2005.

OSEA represents education employees in 141 local chapters throughout the state with members in every senate and house district. All but two of our local chapters have paid sick leave as part of their collective bargaining agreement with the employer. OSEA members know the value of having paid sick leave. Where there is paid sick leave, our members take the time off to get well because they do not have to worry about losing a day's pay or losing their job.

Where there is no paid sick leave, OSEA members are forced into making the decision to work sick because the loss of a day's pay would create an economic hardship and may result in the loss of their job. OSEA members that work for an employer that does not have paid sick leave are scheduled to give testimony on SB 454 and HB 2005. Our members will also be sharing their stories by submitting written testimony to the committees.

Requiring employers to provide paid sick leave is good public policy and has a positive impact on the health and well-being of Oregon workers, families and the community at large. Broadly applied, paid sick leave puts every employer on a level playing field and provides no employer an advantage or disadvantage.

Please support SB 454 and HB 2005.