

## **DR. NANCY GOLDEN**Chief Education Officer

March 25, 2015

Joint Ways and Means General Government Committee c/o Co-Chairs Senator Steiner Hayward and Representative Greg Smith

Dear Committee Members,

I would like to express my support for the issue briefs created by the Oregon Advocacy Commissions (OAC's) which is part of their statutory work on policy research currently included in HB 5001. The OAC's have worked in partnership with the OEIB to create three issue briefs in support of critical equity issues with our education system impacting student outcomes: Disproportionate Discipline, Chronic Absenteeism and Support for English Language Learners. The completed briefs have been a tremendous asset to our team as we've worked on developing policy and investment recommendations to empower and support Oregon students experiencing some of the barriers associated with these issues. I believe that through the creation of the issue briefs the OAC's are providing an important opportunity for students to participate in public policy internships while elevating critical data on some of our most pressing equity issues.

I am deeply appreciative of the partnership with the Oregon Advocacy Commissions and look forward to future opportunities to work together to elevate key issues impacting Oregon students.

Thank you,

Dr. Nancy L. Golden Chief Education Officer