

I have worked for a school district 21 years. In that time I have seen a high turn-over in our classified employees. Classified School Employees is one of the largest groups of permanent workers who cannot file for unemployment during breaks in work. We do not get paid for spring, winter or summer breaks.

I work bell to bell, which means I am at work only when students are in class. So any conference days I am off, all breaks, I do not get paid. People are struggling to pay the bills and stay afloat during summer breaks.

I myself have lost my home of 18 years because in the summer I don't get paid. Try to find someone to hire you for only 3 months. Some are even finding other jobs, which isn't fair to the kids that have come to trust and depend on.

I think that it is time to pass a law so that I and many like me can have the same benefits that others are allowed. It's time to pass Bill 470. All Oregonians deserve the same rights!

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