



**KATHLEEN TAYLOR**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 41  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**House Bill 3319**

House Committee on Education  
April 17th 2015

Chair Doherty and Members of the House Education Committee,

I am Kathleen Taylor, State Representative for District 41, which includes Milwaukie, Oak Grove, and parts of Southeast Portland. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today about HB 3319 and the -1 amendments.

The -1 amendments require each school district to report to the Oregon Department of Education about what they are doing to reduce high school drop-out rates and address chronic absenteeism. This information will then be compiled by ODE, who will report to the legislature what activities and strategies are being used across the state. This information will give educators, administrators, school districts, and lawmakers a clearer picture of what is being done to increase high school graduation rates and address chronic absenteeism in Oregon schools. The comprehensive nature of this report will allow us to assess a variety of strategies. It will also help us understand how these strategies work in different educational environments--Oregon's mix of urban, rural, and suburban public schools. Again, the ultimate goal of this work is to find the best methods for increasing graduation rates and preventing absenteeism and to implement these methods across the state.

I urge your support for HB 3319 and the -1 amendments.