

BETTY KOMP
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 22



Thursday, May 14, 2015

Re: HB 2661, HR E: Senate Education Committee

Chair Roblan, members of the Committee: Thank you for holding the hearing on HB 2661. For the record, I am State Representative Betty Komp, representing House District 22, Woodburn, Gervais and North Salem.

I am pleased to urge your support of a bill that requires schools to practice safety lock down drills.

As the situation now stands, schools are not required to practice safety lock-down drills. While they are preparing for emergencies such as a fire or a tsunami, they are not prepared for lock-down when there is a threat to safety. Though these procedures exist, they are not being practiced regularly. With the recent emergencies in our schools, these drills are imperative to ensure our students' safety preparedness.

The amendment includes terms that are used by safety personnel, teachers and substitute teachers so that we can ensure everyone is using the same terminology in times of emergency.

The bill creates a means of preparing our students and staff for all possible emergency situations and maintaining their safety. I urge your support for House Bill 2661, as a way to help our Oregonian students.

Thank you for your time today.