

To whom it may concern, I would like you to consider passing HB 3263 for the following reasons:

- School-based OTs are clinicians who addresses sensorimotor, psychosocial and cognitive skills that support children in their educational programs.
- There are currently no state guidelines for school-based OT workloads in Oregon.
- Many OT caseloads exceed 100 students - some of the highest nationally.
- Results are high burn-out/turnover rates, and inefficient service delivery.
- Federal law, requiring adequate OT as a 'related service' on an IEP (IDEA) is not being adhered to statewide due to lack of workload regulation.
- Supporting HB 3263 leads to better management of OT service in schools which improves student outcomes and ensures adherence to federal law (IDEA).
- Possible solutions include increasing use of cost-efficient COTAs, and adopting guidelines from other states ( i.e. workload formulas-NC and/or caseload caps-WA).

As an Occupational Therapist of 30 years I feel strongly re the above proposal. Thanks for your time, Paris Geiken