



Oregon School Employees Association

www.osea.org

State Office: 4735 Liberty Rd S, Salem, OR 97302-5036

P: 800/252-6732, 503/588-0121 F: 503/588-8307

May 10, 2017

Senate Majority Leader Ginny Burdick, Chair
Senate Rules Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 1062

Dear Chair Burdick and members of the Committee,

Please accept my written testimony, on behalf of the more than 21,000 members of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) in support of the Healthy and Safe Schools Plan bill, SB 1062.

OSEA represents school support personnel working in Oregon school districts, community colleges, education service districts, and Head Start agencies. This includes educators in both the public and private sector, and in charter schools. OSEA members ensure students are safely transported to and from school, well-nourished so they are ready to learn in a clean and safe learning environment, and individual educational needs are met.

SB 1062 promotes OSEA's desire to continue to improve the learning environment for students in schools through the development of a Healthy and Safe Schools Plan to address environmental hazards in schools. Following a model plan developed by experts at ODE, OHA, and DEQ and funding from the Healthy School Facilities Fund as required by SB 1062, school districts would be better equipped to test for and reduce exposure to elevated levels of lead in water, lead-based paint, asbestos, and radon. To ensure safety in school lunch rooms the plan would also include provisions for installing carbon monoxide detection devices in proximity to fuel burning appliances that emit carbon monoxide.

OSEA supports policies promoting safe, healthy learning environments in schools and urges the committee's support of SB 1062.

Thank you,
Soren Metzger
Government Relations Specialist
soren@osea.org
971-283-1184