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5/22/17

RE: Support for SB 182

To the Education Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Paul Andrews and I am currently the Deputy Superintendent of the High Desert Education Service District. I was also appointed by Governor Brown to be a member of the Oregon Council on Educator Advancement. I am writing in **support of SB 182**.

One of the main reasons I applied to be on the Council was to advocate for smaller, more rural and remote districts that were not recipients of competitive grants through the Network of Quality Teaching and Learning. The NQTL taught us a great deal about mentoring programs, professional development, pre-service and in-service programs, and dual credit systems, among others. Unfortunately, if a district did not have the capacity to access a skilled grant writer, they were not able to apply for or receive many of the funds available to districts that had that capacity. Now that these pilot programs have served their purpose in teaching the state how to advance these important objectives, it is time to spread them **to all districts serving all students in Oregon**.

SB 182 and the Council both advance the notion of creating a statewide Educator Advancement Council that works with local Educator Networks. The Educator Networks will ensure that all teachers have access to mentoring, professional development and advancement opportunities. Only if SB 182 is passed and fully funded, however, will we **ensure equity across the entire state**. We need to truly create a statewide network that ALL districts and ALL teachers and ALL students can benefit from. SB 182, fully funded, will achieve that goal.

There are others who can speak more eloquently and personally to the other benefits of SB 182, but I wanted to take this opportunity to advance the importance of the governance structure in the bill. The EAC and the Educator Networks will allow us to be good stewards of those state funds and to **ensure that all educators are able to access this important work**.

I urge you to pass SB 182 and to fully fund it.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Andrews", is written over a faint blue line.

Paul Andrews, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent