

TOBIAS READ
STATE TREASURER



PHONE 503-378-4329
FAX 503-373-7051

OREGON STATE TREASURY
159 STATE CAPITOL, 900 COURT ST NE
SALEM, OR 97301-4043

February 7, 2018

RE: HB 4013

Dear Members of the House Committee on Education,

The Office of the State Treasurer was asked to provide testimony regarding House Bill 4013, relating to the Treasurer's seat on the State Board of Education.

Treasurer Read takes seriously his *ex officio* role on the State Board of Education and values the opportunity to participate in discussions related to our state's K-12 schools. Rather than conferring his responsibilities to a permanent designee, the Treasurer has chosen to participate directly on the State Board of Education. When his schedule allows, the Treasurer attends Board meetings. When he is unable to attend, the Treasurer has sent a policy advisor from the Oregon State Treasury executive office to attend meetings and participate in board discussions. Our office's participation in the Board has been in support of the Treasurer, rather than a reflection of any desire to confer his status to an outside designee.

If HB 4013 becomes law, the Treasurer will still attend and actively participate in Board meetings as frequently as possible. The Treasurer feels strongly that his service to the Board is an important element of his position as a constitutional officer. This bill does not fundamentally alter how Treasurer Read will participate as an *ex officio* member of the Board for he will continue to directly serve in that capacity. If he is unable to attend and he wishes to have formal representation in Board meetings we will send our Deputy Treasurer. In addition, we will likely continue to have a policy advisor attend meetings to track the discussion and report back to the Treasurer, in coordination with the Deputy Treasurer.

Thank you for giving our office the opportunity to comment on the proposed legislation.

Respectfully,

Dmitri Palmateer
Chief of Staff