

To: House Committee on Education - Chair Rep Margaret Doherty; Vice Chair Rep Alonso Leon and Vice Chair Rep Helt and Committee members Rep Hernandez; Rep Sollman; Rep Wallan; Rep Reschke; Rep Reardon and Rep Neron From: SEIU Local 503 – Len Norwitz, Senior Political Organizer Re: HB 2760 Date: February 27, 2019

Find this as testimony in support of **HB 2760** – which establishes Universal School Meal Account for purpose of reimbursing school districts for certain costs incurred in providing federally reimbursable meals.

SEIU 503 represents a little more than 500 workers at Portland Public School. About 300 are custodians and the other 200 work in the Nutrition Services departments. Our members are on site with students daily - as we maintain and provide key student services and support their success. And we know the importance of having nourished and healthy students as they make their way through their days on campus.

We strongly support the Child Nutrition Programs that are currently provided at our schools. Child Nutrition Programs ensure that students – regardless of income - are well nourished and ready to learn.

It is our understanding that House Bill 2760 would help school districts continue to provide the best services for students, allowing families to focus on their students' academic success rather than where they will find their next meal. We strongly encourage the committee to support HB 2760. Thank you.

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