



Date: 04/15/2019

To: Chair Holvey and Members of the House Rules Committee

From: Kelli Horvath, Government Relations, Oregon Education Association

RE: OEA Support for HB 3310

Chair Holvey and members of the committee,

The Oregon Education Association (OEA) represents more than 45,000 educators who serve more than 600,000 Oregon students. Our members include educators, specialists, support staff, custodians, bus drivers, and community college faculty and staff from across the state.

As Oregon's student population becomes increasingly diverse, OEA is committed to ensuring that all students have the support, advocacy, and representation necessary to succeed. In addition to supporting efforts to diversify the educator workforce and make targeted investments and policy changes to support equitable outcomes for students, OEA members know structural changes outside of the classroom are a critical piece of the puzzle as Oregon schools strive to better serve students from traditionally underserved—and underrepresented—communities. As such, educators support HB 3310 and encourage members of the committee to do the same.

HB 3310, also known as the Oregon Voting Rights Act, empowers local communities and school districts to live out their equity values by putting in place a process—without any new electoral requirements beyond the Federal Voting Rights Act—to ensure that members of underrepresented communities not only have an equal voice in elections, but have more equitable access to opportunities to make school boards more representative of the students they serve.

Educators encourage you to support HB 3310.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kelli Horvath
Government Relations
Oregon Education Association