

Please include these comments in the official record for HB 3427.

To Whom it May concern,

I just want to thank you for working on getting adequate and stable funding for education for the state of Oregon.

I am a teacher in the Beaverton school district, and it is upsetting to think that because of unstable state funding we will be laying off teachers, increasing class size, and cutting programs just a few short years after recovering from the last budget shortfall. I am also a parent of public education children. Our kids are not getting the education they deserve, when their administrators and teachers are focused on another budget crisis.

We all witnessed some difficult situations during the last budget shortfall: Young talented teachers left the classroom; other teachers were moved into positions that they were not comfortable teaching; and class sizes ballooned. After one of these events we have to rehire staff and build up programs. If this is going to be a continual 10 year cycle, it will be difficult to improve, or even maintain, our educational system in Oregon.

It is critical to the health of our state that educational funding is adequate to the task and stable. Our recent funding levels have allowed us to bring class sizes to a more manageable level. We have begun to give students more experience in 21st century technology skills. At the school where I work, we finally got our pre-k program restarted. This is why so many teachers are speaking up to support sustainable and adequate educational funding.

Thank you for your efforts,

Luke Unger

Library and Informational Technology Teacher

Springville: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 am - 4 pm

Aloha Huber: Tuesday, Thursday: 9:15 - 4 pm

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