

**From:** [jocelyn.nelson](#)  
**To:** [JCSS Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Rep Hernandez](#); [Sen Fagan](#)  
**Subject:** Support for HB 3427  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 5:26:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [Outlook-qwwhinej.png](#)

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

To the Joint Committee on Student Success,

I am writing to thank you for proposing HB 3427 to increase our state's investment in public education. We are approaching truly dire circumstances as we face tens of millions in deficits next year, eliminating 200 teacher positions and unknown numbers of support staff. Class sizes are already large, and will be at unsafe levels next year as things currently stand. Not only will it be hazardous to have 40+ students in a classroom that is designed for 30 max, but there is absolutely no way for a teacher to reach that many students on a personal or academic level. It is unmanageable. Teachers at that point are mere babysitters in the worst gig ever, reduced to being a warm adult body amidst throngs of children. This proposal doesn't quite take us to the level of funding students and teachers deserve, but it is a step in the right direction.

I would like to encourage you to make changes regarding the remaining funds and how they are distributed. I strongly believe that it is the state's obligation to fund public education, and thus schools should not be made to apply for grants to receive this funding. This will undoubtedly cause issues regarding equity and will make more work for schools and districts that are already stretched thin due to inadequate staffing, which is in turn due to inadequate funding. It is a vicious cycle that must be broken.

Thank you again, and I hope the committee will consider allocating funds directly, rather than through an application/grant system.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Nelson  
Teacher, Grade 2  
Chehalem Elementary School  
Beaverton School District

**A person's a person,  
no matter how small.**

--Dr. Seuss

