

- *To: Joint Committee of Student Success*

From: Karen Molineaux, MAT MIT, Learning Facilitator, Klamath County School District

Date: 5/6/2019

Re: Opposition to HB 2876-1 (Coordinated Comprehensive School Counseling Program)

Good morning. My name is Karen Molineaux, and I am a Social Skills Learning Facilitator for Klamath County School District, in Klamath Falls. I am a licensed secondary social studies teacher in Oregon, and I am currently in a Master's of School Counseling program. I am on my way to becoming a high school counselor – a dream of mine. I will get to work with students using my prior experience in education, as well as using my newly acquired skills in Academic, College/Career, and Social/Emotional Learning advising.

I have experience not only in the K-12 arena, but I also have extensive background in higher ed and education grant facilitator work. These additional experiences have been invaluable, and I feel confident that I will serve as a solid resource for students. I have seen first-hand what it takes for students to achieve, complete, and succeed in life, both during and after their time in school.

Having school psychologists, school social workers, and school counselors work as a team for students is the best way to set students up for success. Yet, each one of these fields is different from one another, and each comes with specific skill sets. Replacing one with another is not the same, either. Depriving districts and schools of any one of these positions also leaves students, staff, parents, and communities without a total student support system, and this is the real issue with House Bill 2876-1.

I am writing in opposition to House Bill 2876-1.

I oppose HB 2876-1 because:

- This bill does not match current rule for Comprehensive School Counseling (OAR 581-022-2060) that each school is also required to provide a comprehensive school counseling program.
- This bill does not address the gap in training for current SSWs or other licensed personnel to gain the competencies for implementing a comprehensive school counseling program. (Note: PSU is the only SSW preparation provider and they have a policy around not duplicating program components. Therefore, SSW's do not receive the same training as school counselors.)
- This bill does not address the Child Development Specialist Programs (OAR 581-021-0013) personnel who are not TSPC licensed and are currently hired to implement a comprehensive school counseling program.
- Districts will need to consider how they advertise open positions for implementing a comprehensive school counseling program. (Note: Current TSPC rule is that SSW's cannot be hired as school counselors.)
- Districts will need to consider revising or developing new job descriptions for personnel who will to implement a comprehensive school counseling program.

Fiscal Impact:

- Districts may need to pay for personnel to get additional training on implementing a comprehensive school counseling program.
- SSW's and other licensed personnel may need to pay for additional training on implementing a comprehensive school counseling program until preparation providers incorporate this training in their programs

I ask/urge that you **NOT** support HB 2876-1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Molineaux



~Karen Molineaux MAT, MIT~

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