

I oppose this bill for the following reason. This year, private schools in Oregon have seen government intervention and what feels like intrusion and over-reach in to our private schools like no other time in my 35 year educational career. Requiring detailed blueprints to be submitted and resubmitted over and over again with over 160 requirements heaped on our private schools from ODE/OHA has been a burden to our private schools. Stop the madness please! This particularr bill would further empower the Oregon Dept of Ed to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct for individuals not licensed by TSPC (primarily private schools), and requires all schools to check both TSPC and ODE databases to determine whether applicants have current investigations or if they have been found guilty of sexual misconduct. These ODE investigations parallel the investigations done by TSPC for similar allegations and addresses SB 409 concerns.

SB 409 creates an unfair playing field by providing a cause of action only against non-TSPS licensed individuals, primarily those working in private schools. Enough of government overreach in our schools!