

Oregon School Employees Association www.osea.org State Office: 4735 Liberty Rd S, Salem, OR 97302-5036 P: 800/252-6732, 503/588-0121 F: 503/588-8307

May 12, 2021

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Measure 110 Implementation Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Chair

Dear Chair Prozanski and members of the committee:

The Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA) represents more than 22,000 workers in nearly all levels of public education, including Head Start programs, K-12 school districts, ESDs and community colleges. OSEA members perform many of the thankless tasks that keep Oregon public schools safe and functional for students, administrators and teachers.

The workers we represent understand that as public employees, a certain amount of their privacy is likely to be sacrificed. We don't agree that it should be, as school employees are far from being "public figures" like elected officials or celebrities, but Oregon's high degree of public transparency requires sacrifice by real people.

What we will never agree with, what so many voices have told you is unacceptable, and why House Bill (HB) 3047A is so necessary, is the alarmingly increasing use of "doxing" to harass public employees in our communities.

High standards of conduct for public officials should be maintained, but threats, harassment or worse are not an accountability mechanism. Empowering stalking, harassment or other injury by the intentional publication of personal information is an effort to intimidate and coerce. Such efforts should never be encouraged or rewarded, and it is *the least we can do* to allow victims of this terrible behavior to take the perpetrators to court.

OSEA would encourage the Legislature to not view HB 3047A as a resolution of this unfortunately growing threat in our communities. In particular, we would encourage protection of additional personal information and exploration of the greatest number of possible tools for victims to pursue justice. Doxing is the kind of bad behavior that, if allowed to continue to any significant degree, damages trust within our communities and makes it untenable to maintain the transparency of information that Oregonians value.

## OSEA strongly supports HB 3047A and the A5 amendment. This is thoughtful and meaningful policy on a serious and pressing issue for our state.

Thank you for your attention,

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