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To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Richard Donovan, Legislative Services Specialist

Re: Senate Bill 3

Date: February 28, 2023

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Weber, and members of the committee:

On behalf of the OSBA membership, including 197 school districts and 19 Education Service Districts, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding Senate Bill 3.

Senate Bill 3 would add a one-credit future planning requirement. The posted -1 amendments would change the bill to require a one half-credit future planning requirement and a one half-credit personal financial education requirement. The -1s would allow the personal financial education requirement to be counted as part of the existing mathematics graduation credit requirements.

OSBA supports the intent of the measure and of the -1 amendments. Anecdotally, school districts report that these types of classes, when offered, are among the most popular and are sometimes overenrolled. Future planning class requirements are directly recommended by the Oregon Department of Education's SB 744 report from last year. Future planning classes are a tool to start students thinking about what comes after high school completion.

The -1 amendments allow for flexibility by permitting some of these new credits requirements to fit within the existing credit structure. This sort of change is also in keeping with the SB 744 report. That report recommended moving all subject-specific math requirements entirely. Allowing more courses to fill the requirement is a step in the right direction.

The committee should also consider extending that type of flexibility to the future planning course requirement. Oregon's 24 required credits for graduation are among the highest credit requirements in the nation. Allowing a future planning requirement to count towards an existing math or social sciences requirements would allow greater schedule flexibility.