Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Education sub-committee.

My name is Ashley Schofield. I'm writing to urge you to vote to make sure that we are funding our schools adequately. As you know the <u>2022 QEM</u> report estimates that it will require a State School Fund investment of \$11.88 billion to achieve lasting educational gains for all our state's public school students. There has been an urgent call to action by districts, families, and teachers to demand adequate funding for our public schools in Oregon, and I hope the sub-committee is listening. For too long we have not adequately funded our schools, and with <u>Governor Kotek's commitment</u> to prioritize education, the time is now to back that up with adequate funding. The proposed appropriation request of \$9.52 Billion to the State School Fund is still not enough.

It is important we fund the State School Fund because it's vital to provide fair and adequate education for Oregon's 550,000 K-12 students, and to pay for district operating expenses, transportation costs and other needs that support a successful school.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I urge you to allocate at least \$11.88 billion to the State School fund.

Ashley Schofield Mom to 1st Grader in Portland Public Schools

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