



A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

To: Chair Neron
Vice-Chair Hudson and Wright
Members of the House Committee on Education

FR: Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: HB 4077 Support, The Incident Reporting Bill

February 7th, 2024

The Oregon AFL-CIO represents over 300,000 working Oregonians and their families. We know that having a safe working environment in any job is one of the most important things that any worker can hope for. HB 4077 takes a massive step for ensuring workers feel safe at work and is the next common-sense bill for OSEA's Work Shouldn't Hurt campaign. It increases access to incident forms by making an online form that can be completed on a smartphone and computer. We strongly believe that classified and licensed educators should have access to incident report forms.

This substantial change would allow these critical workers more accountability for pervasive injury issues across the state. Currently, the state of Oregon only tracks injuries that are identified as catastrophic (injuries causing loss of limb, eye, bone, hospitalization, or death) and accepted disabling claims (injuries causing a worker to be released by a doctor for three or more days). Right now, any injury that causes less than 3 days off work are not tracked by the state – **no matter how frequently they happen.**

A standard statewide incident form that adds state oversight is essential to keeping educators safe on the job while giving state decision makers more information on what happens in schools regularly.

We strongly ask you to support HB 4077 -2 to ensure that all staff at schools feel safe and have the ability to report incidents that will be recorded by the state.