



OREGON STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PAUL HOLVEY

HOUSE DISTRICT 8

Rep.PaulHolvey@oregonlegislature.gov

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House Education Committee Support for HB 4077 - The Incident Reporting Bill

I'm writing in support of HB 4077 the incident reporting bill. HB 4077 increases access to incident forms by making an online form that can be filled out on a smartphones and computer. The bill codifies work from the 2023 Interim Incident Reporting Work Group led by Senator Dembrow and Representative Neron. HB 4077 requires the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services to work with stakeholders to create a "method" (online form, process, and database), so that classified and licensed educators will have access to incident report forms.

This crucial change will increase 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 regardless of how frequently they happen.

A standardized statewide incident form is essential to keeping educators safe on the job while giving state decision makers more information on what happens in schools regularly. The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration reporting process is triggered by employees reporting injuries, so no action to improve safety happens if the incident isn't reported. We need to provide this kind of support for the viability of the entire education workforce.

I urge your support of HB 4077.

Respectfully,

Paul Holvey
Oregon State Representative
House District 8