SEIU Stronger Together

Service Employees International Union – Oregon State Council

February 7, 2024

Chair Neron, Vice-chairs Hudson and Wright, and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 4077-2, which will increase accessibility to incident forms and codify the 2023 Interim Reporting Work Group.

My name is Alberto Gallegos and I am testifying on behalf of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Oregon. SEIU Oregon is composed of SEIU Local 503 and SEIU Local 49, which together represent over 87,000 people. Local 49 represents private sector janitors, property service workers, light manufacturing, and healthcare workers; while Local 503 represents homecare workers, private nonprofit workers, in-home childcare providers, nursing home workers, and state and local government employees.

Schools should be a safe environment for both students and staff. It was with that mindset that OSEA launched their Work Shouldn't Hurt campaign in 2012. For the last 12 years, OSEA members have advocated for a data-driven approach to understand the rate and acuity of incidents in public education so that it can be properly addressed. HB 4077 would create a standard statewide incident form which will become an essential tool in adding state oversight by giving state decision makers more information on the regular ongoings in schools. This will help keep workers safe on the job, thus making this bill the next common-sense bill for the Work Shouldn't Hurt campaign.

SEIU Oregon encourages the Committee to support HB 4077-2.

Thank you,

Alberto Gallegos Political and Government Relations Organizer SEIU Oregon State Council