

COURTNEY NERON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 26



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Testimony in Support of [HB 3011](#)

February 11, 2025

Chair Hudon, Vice Chair Wright, and Vice Chair Fragala and Members of the House Higher Education Committee and Workforce Development.

I write to you today in strong support of HB 3011 which makes a critical investment in Oregon's early childhood education workforce development.

By establishing the **Early Childhood Education Workforce Development Fund**, this bill ensures that community colleges and public universities receive the necessary **resources to strengthen early childhood education degree and certificate programs**.

The bill prioritizes **support for institutions** that provide **hands-on training** through campus-based childcare and learning centers, ensuring that future educators gain practical experience in high-quality settings.

As Oregon faces a growing demand for qualified early childhood educators, HB 3011 takes a strategic approach by allocating **\$20 million to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) to help build a pipeline of well-trained educators**, supporting both students pursuing early childhood education careers and the families who rely on accessible, high-quality early learning opportunities.

A strong foundation in early learning is essential for our children's future success, and investing in the **educators** who provide that foundation is an investment in Oregon's future.

I urge your support of HB 3011 to ensure we are equipping the next generation of early childhood educators with the training and resources they need to succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney Neron". The signature is fluid and cursive.

