

Submitter: Stephanie Brell LCSW
On Behalf Of: The community
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2953

As a social worker, I cannot tell you all of the stories that contribute to my support of this measure. There are countless children in Oregon. especially post pandemic, that are in need of mental health and special education assistance. Informed, educated citizens will result in an informed, working democracy. Through no fault of their own, students arrive to begin their days at school and just the night before, have needed to contend with family addiction or their own addiction. They arrive with developmental delays and neurodivergence, sometimes undetected by providers and educators alike. We now know that consistent, evidence based educational programs offer these kids the best opportunity to succeed despite these challenges. And with this success, we see the waterfall effect of less stress on parents, families and communities. Please support. Thank-you.