

Submitter: Katelyn Taylor  
On Behalf Of: CEA  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB717

Chair Frederick, Vice Chair Webber. and Members of the Committee,

My name is Katelyn Taylor and I am a 3rd grade teacher in the Centennial school district. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SB717, which seeks to address financial barriers for aspiring educators and ensure mentor teachers receive fair compensation. During my time student teaching, not only was my mental health at an all time low, but so were my finances. While still taking college courses and Student Teaching Monday - Friday 7am-3pm, I also worked a job in the evening to make ends meet. This made my student teaching experience less enjoyable and I was not able to really focus on my career. Paid student teaching ensures aspiring teachers are fully immersed in their training rather than splitting their focus between working multiple jobs and their practicum. I urge you to support SB717 and its impact on Oregon's educator pipeline.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Katelyn Taylor  
katelynstaylor6@gmail.com  
Centennial Educator Association, OEA