

Submitter: Kady Taylor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB717

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

My name is Kady Taylor and I am a current teacher candidate (student teacher) at Western Oregon University. 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.

I spend my time from 7:30-3:30 several days a week at my clinical site teaching for free, which means that my evenings are spent working a part time retail job to pay rent, buy food, or necessary items for living. Because I balance working at the school and in retail, my time that should be spent sleeping, eating, or practicing self-care is spent preparing lessons or grading to give my students the best experience as their teacher.

This bill is important because it gives students teachers more time to spend taking care of themselves so that they can take care of their class and their students.

Student teaching is currently not livable without working additional jobs alongside it, which is often draining on the mental and physical health of these students. We need this bill to pass to see the continuation of people passionate about education pursuing this career and doing so with financial stability.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kady Taylor