



To: Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Reschke and House Committee on Revenue

Re: In Support of HB 2448A

Date: March 15, 2025

I am writing today on behalf of Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express strong support for HB 2448, which increases funding for services for students with high-cost disabilities. COIN members are Indivisible groups from across Oregon that collaborate to protect democracy and progressive values, including full funding for education. HB 2448 is an important step towards full funding for special education programs (SPED) in K-12 schools.

We support the decision to increase the General Fund appropriation to the State School Fund from \$150 million to \$200 million. As the committee well knows, the need is far greater than the current annual grant to the High Cost Disabilities Fund of \$55 million per year. The families, children, and school staff have been asked to fill an impossibly large chasm between actual expenses and actual resources. Students are denied services because there is not enough funding, and not because there is a lack of knowledge, skills, or desire to help. By increasing the fund to \$200 million and lifting the 11% cap on SPED funding under companion bill HB 2953, the legislature will provide enough support to educate children with high cost disabilities.

Respectfully,

Lynda Martin-McCormick

COIN Legislative Team, Education Group

<https://www.coinoregon.org/>