



Date: March 17, 2025
To: House Education Committee
From: Parasa Chanramy, COSA
Subject: Testimony in Support of [House Bill 2508](#)

Good Afternoon, Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the House Education Committee:

For the record, my name is Parasa Chanramy with the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators. We are here in support of House Bill 2508.

We want to thank Chair Neron for facilitating the workgroup that helped develop this bill. It was an honor to serve on this workgroup.

Across Oregon, we have 538,445 students (data from ODE, June 2024) – roughly 14% of whom are mobile (~75,382 students). As students and their families move within our state, HB 2508 is intended to help with:

- 1) Easing the transfer of electronic student records, while maintaining strong safeguards for student data privacy; and
- 2) Improving student access to, and continuity in, educational services and supports – especially for students with disabilities, and students who are highly mobile due to a variety of circumstances.

In a memo shared with our workgroup (big shoutout to Rachel Wentte-Chaney!), [Oregon ESDs and Chief Information Officers](#) highlighted our current challenges related to data security and operations, and the impact these challenges have on the experiences of students and families.

Data Security

Student transfer records are most regularly sent by non-registered USPS mail, or by fax.

Operational Efficiency

They interviewed dozens of registrars the past three years and estimate that:

- *Each incoming student requires a minimum of 60 minutes for demographic and program enrollment data entry; and*
- *Secondary students (because of course history) require 90 minutes or more.*



Family experience

While every family does not wait over a month for their child's full record to transfer, enough do that it is a problem to solve.

Language access and special education service delays of weeks in early elementary ages are avoidable, significant gaps. We also note—anecdotally from the registrars' interviews—that middle-class families have time and knowledge of the system that allow them to be more persistent and present in the requests for the transfer "ASAP" and that is often not true with working parents and those with language barriers.

This bill would establish education data standards which could help:

- Improve the process of transferring student records securely;
- Support timely access to educational services and supports for Oregon students;
- Increase efficiency and data accuracy in student records, while saving a significant amount of hours of manual data entry per district.

In addition to the student records transfer issue, the Oregon Department of Education requires [over 300 data collections and other required submissions](#) annually. Those reports are submitted through 31 different file formats and software systems. Many of them require 50 columns of data (student identifiers) before the data elements are collected for a specific report. The volume of data collections and other required submissions is staggering and creates a huge administrative burden for districts, especially for our smaller districts.

With HB 2508, we also believe that this work can support:

- How ODE modernizes the collection, use, maintenance, and transfer of data across multiple platforms – with strong safeguards to protect student data privacy;
- Efforts to streamline existing and future reporting burdens for school districts and Education Service Districts.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today. We urge your support of HB 2508.