



**COALITION OF
OREGON SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATORS**

TO: House Committee on Education

FROM: Oregon School Boards Association & Coalition of Oregon School Administrators

DATE: March 26, 2025

RE: HB 2673

Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 2673. Our two organizations work to support school district leaders across the state, and we can attest to the value of this bill. Oregon has seen an immense amount of turnover among district leaders in recent years. This is true not only at the superintendent level, but for business managers as well.

One only needs to spend a brief amount of time in this committee to begin to understand how complex our K-12 system is. Not only do district business managers navigate the various grant funding streams and reporting requirements from ODE, but they also must adhere to local budget laws, understand the 100+ page Program Accounting and Budgeting Manual (PBAM) from ODE, and steer their districts through the audit process. It takes far more than a basic understanding of accounting principles to navigate the intricacies of school district finances.

With so much turnover in the field, we are seeing an increased need for training opportunities and support for business officials and administrators. While we have lots of state-supported trainings for other school staff (provided through the ESDs or RENs for example) we have not, as a matter of policy, made a commitment to ensure that our folks in the business office have access to appropriate training and professional development.

All of us have a vested interest in making sure that the individuals managing the finances for our school districts are as effective and well-trained as possible. Providing funding for ongoing training and support for these key staff members is critical to the success of our districts. HB 2673 makes a relatively small investment in this work, but it will pay dividends.

Please join us in supporting HB 2673. Thank you.