



Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Wright and Hudson, and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Cynthia Branger Muñoz, and I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Oregon Education Association. OEA represents over 41,000 educators and education service professionals across the state, spanning pre-K through community colleges. Our members include teachers, bus drivers, custodians, educational assistants, nutrition specialists, community college faculty and staff, and many others who work every day to support Oregon's students.

We appreciate the work of the committee and stakeholders on House Bill 3563 and write today in support of the -2 amendment. The updates offered in the amendment provide much-needed clarity in defining behaviors that constitute a "boundary violation," better delineate the scope of an "investigation," and ensure that private schools are held to the same standards as public institutions in protecting students from misconduct.

OEA strongly supports clear, enforceable standards that prioritize student safety while also protecting the due process rights of education professionals. The definitions provided in the -2 amendment move us in that direction. However, we want to note for the record that the term "professionally inappropriate" remains undefined in both current statute and this bill. While we understand the intent, this lack of definition could lead to inconsistent application and confusion in enforcement. For that reason, we remain cautious about how that language may be interpreted.

We look forward to ongoing collaboration on implementation to ensure fairness, clarity, and safety for everyone in the school community.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to provide testimony.