

Submitter: Thad Kajkowski
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

I have seen and experienced the commitment, skill and drive that I and my colleagues have put towards k-6 students since the pandemic. We are working so hard to close gaps in reading and math. We are working so hard to support our ELLs and bilingual students. We are working so hard to make sure that school attendance matters and that school is a safe and growth minded place. Because of this it is so discouraging to find that my district along with many others will be forced to stretch our already maxed bandwidth and be asked to do more with less. The current level of state funding will mean many of my colleagues will lose their jobs, it will mean important programs will no longer be available to students. It will mean that class sizes will swell and overwhelm teachers that already have large classes. None of this is good for Oregon. The current level of state funding is not good for students, not good for schools, not good for our future.