

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

As a primary school teacher in Oregon, I witness firsthand the incredible potential in our students each day and the growing challenges they face due to limited resources. Our classrooms are full of bright, curious kids, but many come to school carrying the weight of poverty, trauma, and unmet needs. We do our best to support every child, but with overcrowded classrooms, outdated materials, and not enough mental health or special education staff, it's becoming harder to give each student the attention they deserve. We need more than just passion we need sustained, targeted investments to make real change. If lawmakers could step into my classroom for even a day, they'd see how desperately we need support. Targeted investments in early literacy, classroom aides, mental health services, and smaller class sizes would have a transformative impact not only on academic outcomes but on the overall well-being of our students. I want lawmakers to know we are doing our part. We show up every day with heart and dedication. Now we need them to do theirs to fund public education in a way that reflects its true importance to Oregon's future.