

Submitter: Sella Bemrose
On Behalf Of: Oregon School Employees Association
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Chairs Lieber and Sanchez and members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Sella Bemrose, and I live in Stayton Oregon. I am a member of the Oregon School Employees Association (OSEA). I am a Special Programs Assistant I in the Strategic Reading Program at Stayton Elementary School in Stayton, Oregon. Where I teach reading strategies for struggling readers. I am the Chapter President for North Santiam Chapter #122, and also the Zone III Director on the Board for OSEA. OSEA represents over 25,00 members across the state of Oregon. We are the support staff of most public education institutes, headstarts, community colleges, and some parks & recs. employees.

I am here to support the Governor's proposed budget of \$11.4 billion to fully fund public education!

As a Zone Director of OSEA, and working with many different chapters within my Zone and other Zone Directors around the state of Oregon, I am aware of hundreds of classified and certified staff/employee positions that are going to be cut in school districts if the Governor's proposed budget does not get passed. This will significantly impact the students in public education that attend schools in Oregon! You all talk about the scores of students in public education at a state level. But if those students don't have the support of classified employees or smaller class sizes, how can they be expected to exceed?

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. We respectfully urge you to prioritize funding for education this session and not wait until more critical education positions are cut!

Sincerely,

Sella Bemrose
SPA I at Stayton Elementary School, Title I
Chapter President of North Santiam Chapter #122
Zone III Director on the OSEA Board