

ANNA SCHARF
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 23



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 25, 2022

Chief Clerk Sekerak
Oregon State Capitol

RE: Vote explanation for SB 1521 (A-Engrossed)

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

I wish to submit the following explanation for my vote on SB 1521 (A-Engrossed).

SB 1521 (A-Engrossed) Establishes job protections for school district superintendents by setting into law that superintendent contracts cannot be terminated for failure of complying with local, state, or federal law including directives having the force of law, ordinances, city or county resolutions, statutes, court decisions, administrative rules or regulations, order issued in compliance with the state's administrative procedure laws, executive order or any other directive, declaration or statement that has the force of law and is issued by local, state, or federal government entities.

Oregon has 197 public school districts and no two are the same. The Legislature should not be inserting themselves into local school board superintendent contract negotiations. This undermines local control by voters of a school district and the school board members that they elect.

Supporters of the bill stated that Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) and the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators (COSA) were in support of the bill. However, I believe this to be a false statement. School boards want local control and superintendents want the ability to work with their school boards on a fair employment contract.

Regards,

Anna