

June 5, 2025

The Honorable Julie Fahey Speaker of the House H-271 State Capitol Salem, OR 97301 The Honorable Rob Wagner President of the Senate S-201 State Capitol Salem, OR 97301

RE: Senate Bill 302

Dear Speaker Fahey and President Wagner,

Pursuant to Article V, Section 15b(1), I am returning Enrolled Senate Bill 302 unsigned for reconsideration by the Legislature.

The lens through which I am evaluating all education bills is whether they provide greater accountability and focus on student outcomes.

Senate Bill 302 directs the Oregon Department of Education to conduct an audit of the assessments administered to kindergarteners in Oregon public schools. I believe an "audit" would mean a formal inspection or examination of these assessments, which would require a level of administrative attention from local school districts.

Among my top priorities this session is reducing the administrative burden for school districts so that educators can focus on improving student outcomes. This bill does not align with these goals.

Sincerely,

Governor Tina Kotek