

**Testimony for the State Board of Education
January 22, 2014
re: OARs 581-022-1620, 581-022-0102, and OAR 581-022-1131**

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Vice President for Legislation, Oregon PTA**

Oregon PTA greatly appreciates being included in the Instructional Hours Stakeholder Group, the professionalism of Oregon Department of Education staff in providing quality information and encouraging robust discussion among diverse stakeholders, and the excellent work of engaged parents who provided the impetus for these proposals. We're grateful to Dr. Saxton and the Board for addressing this very important aspect of quality education in Oregon.

Your proposed rules will impact all School Districts in Oregon, and the Department has determined that the proposed revisions are likely to have some fiscal impact on school districts. Our concern remains the fiscal impact on nearly 70 Districts that fall below the new benchmarks, and the short lead time to adjust budgets, programs, and schedules.

We're grateful that the Governor's Budget includes increased funding for education, and that the Co-Chair's budget makes an even greater investment in students. But with full day Kindergarten starting next fall, it's our hope that the Legislature can consider this proposal in the context of overall education funding. While we share your goal of adding more time to our school calendar, we respectfully request that adoption of the proposed rules be postponed until they can be considered in the broader context of overall education funding and programs.

Thank you for your consideration.