

14231 S Macksburg Rd
Molalla, OR 97038
April 2, 2013

Oregon House of Representatives
Attention: Education Committee
State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chairwoman Kotek and Honored Committee Members:

I am unable to attend the committee hearing on Wednesday, April 13, 2013, regarding House Bill 3397. I would like to share my following concerns.

I am a long-time Molalla resident, and an alumnus of Molalla High School. I am concerned that the mascot ban is an unfunded mandate. I am also concerned about where the line is drawn, and who draws the line, regarding which ethnic groups are banned as mascots.

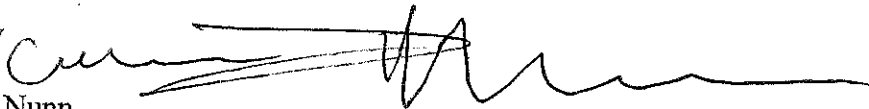
The last estimate to change mascots, of which I am aware, for Molalla River School District, was in excess of \$600,000. In this time of economic uncertainty, with school districts laying off teachers, cutting programs, and cutting school days, this money would be better spent educating our next generation of students.

I am concerned about who decides which mascot is racist. Colton School District has a Viking mascot. I am of Nordic descent. This Viking mascot is supposed to represent my race. I find the caricature of this mascot to not be a true representation of my history. Does that make Colton's mascot racist and demeaning to me?

School districts are supposed to be about the education of the students of said districts. Why can we not use the Indian Mascot as an opportunity to educate the students about history? The money needed to change the mascot equates to seven teachers if you use the average of \$85,000 per year per teacher.

While I am a member of the Molalla River School District Board, the opinions in this letter are my own.

Sincerely



Calvin L Nunn
Molalla Union High School
Class of 1988
Molalla River School District Board, Position 2