

## **Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office**

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## Testimony in support of HB 3409A

Senate General Government, Consumer and Small Business Protection Committee

Chair Shields, Vice Chair George, and Senators Baertschiger, Monnes Anderson and Prozanski:

The Chairs of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions are submitting testimony in support of HB 3409A on natural hair care and its qualifications.

Addressing disparities in access to services supporting wellbeing for communities of color and women is a strategic priority of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions. This includes assuring a great hair day for those seeking and practicing natural hair care. Throughout Oregon, communities of color are filled with family and local experts who regularly coif the hair of friends, family members and neighbors as part of the rich heritage of tradition and beauty we enjoy statewide.

We believe that creating a special, limited license for the practice of natural hair care within the Board of Cosmetology and Oregon Health Licensing Agency provides the right balance of professionalism and regulation while supporting the time honored traditions of the coif in diverse communities statewide.

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions ask you to positively consider this legislation with your vote.

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

Stephen Ying, Chair Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Jackie Dingfelder Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs

Isaac E. Dixon, Chair James Morris, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Rod Monroe Rep. Lew Frederick

OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs

Andrea Cano, Chair Gilbert P. Carrasco, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Chip Shields Rep. Chris Harker

**OR Commission for Women** 

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair Jeanne Burch, Vice Chair Legislative Liaisons: Sen. Monnes Anderson Rep. Betty Komp

Staff

Lucy Baker, Administrator Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant

Sincerely,

Stephen Ying, Chair, OCAPIA

Andrea Cano, Chair, OCHA

Andrea Cano

Isaac Dixon, Chair, OCBA

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair, OCFW