

Dear Legislators~

As a faculty member of The School of Education at Portland State, I believe (as do many researchers) that Native students and all Oregonians scored a victory when Native mascots were banned. We should **NOT rob** our children and grandchildren the opportunity to learn the beautiful complexity of any culture by experiencing harmful, stereotypical imagery via Native mascots.

It feels like a slap in the face and a terrible step backwards to repeal the Native mascot ban.

Please ask the legislators to think about the future and realize the huge mistake it would be to legislate away the right of Native Oregonians to determine their own identities. As a Non-Native person, I feel I have that right, and I feel **everyone** should in a healthy, diverse society.

Thank you, Stephanie A. McBride