

Kate Brown
Governor



Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office
"Advocating Equality and Diversity"
1819 SW 5th Ave., Portland, OR 97201
O 503.302.9725 / F 503.473.8519
Email: oaco.mail@oregon.gov

Testimony in Support of HB 3308A
May 7, 3 pm, HR C
Senate Education Committee

Chair Roblan, Vice-chair Knopp, and Senators Baertschiger, Beyer, Gelsler, Hass, and Kruse:

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions strongly support HB 3308 which requires the Higher Education Coordinating Council to establish a work group to address disparities in underserved communities. We believe this represents an important opportunity to consider needed changes in the ways both the education system and students are supported in Oregon and to do it with the active involvement of representatives from the communities affected.

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions have representation on the legislative committee currently considering the sunset of the OEIB. We have been encouraged with the ability of such inclusive reviews to produce improvements and outcomes for communities of color and others that would not occur without their involvement. We encourage the HECC to take on a thorough review of its supports to improved education experience for all in Oregon using an equity lens for all aspects of its coordination and measures of success.

HB 3308 provides for such a review and opportunity to address disparities in an inclusive manner. We further believe that the recommendations of any such group are better crafted and more assured of success if those are intentionally part of the work group itself. We encourage you to pass this bill and look to us to support your efforts as the HECC selects members of the work group.

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions join with our community partners and urge an Aye vote on HB 3308A.

Sincerely,

Stephen Ying, Chair, OCAPIA

Alberto Moreno, Chair, OCHA

James I. Manning, Jr., Chair, OCBA

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair, OCFW

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

Stephen Ying, Chair
Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Michael Dembrow
Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs

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