



February 16, 2016

Chair Arnie Roblan
Senate Committee on Education
State Capitol Building
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 4033

Dear Chair Roblan and Members of the Committee,

Chalkboard believes that every Oregon student should have a great teacher and every school should have a great leader. In 2013, the Legislature acknowledged the critical importance of supporting educators with the creation of the Network for Quality Teaching and Learning, with the intent to create a coherent system of supports for Oregon's teachers and leaders.

However, in order to fulfill this vision, Oregon must recruit, prepare and support a more diverse educator workforce. The Educators Equity Act is an important part of ensuring that Oregon has more teachers and leaders that reflect the diversity of Oregon's students. Since its inception, the Network has included strengthening and enhancing evidence-based practices that improve student achievement that are advanced by the EEA as a primary purpose of the Network. Chalkboard supports the additional clarity offered by HB 4033 that the Network should be supporting educator preparation programs in their efforts to improve the cultural competence of educators and to ensure educators are trained in culturally relevant educational practices.

Chalkboard Project is focused on educational equity and working towards ensuring that all Oregon students have equitable opportunity and access to educational attainment. HB 4033 helps ensure that Oregon's educators are prepared to meet the needs of their students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Hildick".

Sue Hildick
President, Chalkboard Project

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