

Testimony, SB 280, Funding for Teaching Inclusive Oregon History

The mandate to prepare and teach our students an up-to-date, inclusive history of Oregon is already engraved in ORS 329.492. But because funding for education in Oregon has been so outrageously shortchanged for so long, the funds needed for this effort have not been provided.

Now, more than ever, the need is acute. With the constant barrage today of disparaging and disrespectful language and threats to immigrants and non-white citizens, students need to know and appreciate the true stories of Oregon's founding and its pain-filled path to the present. And teachers need the training and support to lead the conversations in our schools that are required for the development of an informed, mutually respectful citizenry.

Let us not delay this mandate further. Please support SB 280 so the work can proceed.

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