

To all Oregon's Senators:

I strongly support Senate Bill 280 which you will be considering Tuesday, March 14. I have been involved as a concerned parent, citizen, and volunteer for many years in ening and correcting curriculum for our children. Despite Senate Bill 100 sponspered by Aval Gordley in the late 1990's requiring multicultural education, despite Senate Resolution 3, 1999, adopted by the Senate on April 22 on the Day of Acknowledgement, of which I was a part, and despite our committee's work on an 8th grade curriculum, *Beyond the Oregon Trail: Oregon's Untold History*, we continue to "forget" that there are Oregon citizens whose history is still not taught in our schools. Yes, there are serious budget issues for you to consider but when is finally the year to say "enough is enough?" I think it is now more than ever. We must tell the complete story and make sure our future citizens understand it, in all its complexity, diversity, meanness and prejudice.

I got my start in working toward multiculturalism when Nancy Ryles (Rep)was on the Beaverton School Board. She was such a strong proponent of this type of curriculum. If she were alive today she would have said it is past time. Just do it.

Thank you for taking this up for consideration and please pass this important bill.

Sincerely,