

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 280. I am an Oregon mother, with a child in 8th grade in the Oregon public schools. I believe firmly that all Oregon students will benefit from inclusive and diverse stories of all Oregonians. I am white, raising my bi-racial son, whose father has deep ties to the Portland African American community. I want my son and his peers to understand the rich traditions and cultural histories of all Oregonians, who by their presence in the state, contributed meaningfully to our modern Oregon. I support the teaching of histories involving our Chinese American, Native American, Japanese American, African American, and women and immigrant communities. History accurately represented gives everyone a chance to feel pride in their heritage. I want all Oregon students to appreciate the leadership, creativity and resourcefulness of all Oregonians and their ancestors. My son said simply: " I want to learn about the history of other peoples, not just old, white men!".

Thank you. I support SB280.

Sincerely,

Eileen Hawes