

Sen. Wagner,

I'm writing to express my support for the genocide curriculum bill that you are presenting to the Oregon legislature this month. (I hope that my note isn't too late.) As the grand-daughter of a Holocaust survivor and daughter of a refugee from Nazi Germany, this is a topic very near and dear to my heart.

My grandfather was arrested and imprisoned in the Buchenwald concentration camp in 1938. He was released on the condition that he sign over the ownership of his businesses and leave the country. My mother was 16 years old at the time, and she and her parents spent the war as refugees in England, then eventually became US citizens. I have an extensive family tree that shows numerous family members' dates of death as only "1942 Hitler." For reference, attached is part of the documentation of my grandfather's arrest and deportation, which includes an inventory of the belongings he had with him on that day (obtained through the archives of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum). As noted on the form, he was prisoner #5898.

As a member of the Lake Oswego School Board, I'm sure that you are aware of the excellent teaching of Dr. Karen Hoppes at Lakeridge High School. My daughter is currently a student of Dr. Hoppes in her AP US History course, and she also took her excellent "Facing History and Ourselves" course, which focuses on genocide.

Thanks for your work on this. Please let me know what I can do to support your efforts in getting this bill passed.

Best regards,

Melissa Peterman

Lake Oswego

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