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2/18/19

Dear Chair Doherty and members of the House Education Committee,

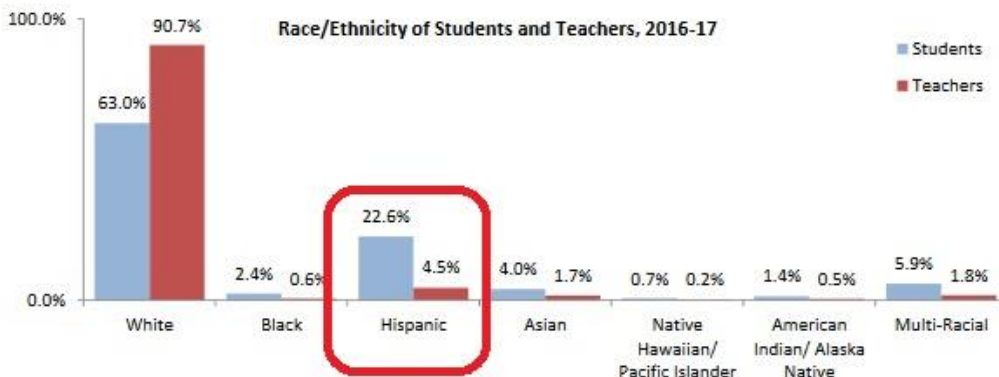
I write in support of HB 2742. It addresses a high priority for change in the Oregon educational system. Unfortunately, the proposed dollars allocated by the bill, even if sustained over the next fifteen years, are not sufficient to close completely the gap between the percentage of diverse students and the percentage of diverse teachers. Please consider increasing the dollar amount and recognized that funding over at least ten years will be required.

(1) Currently Oregon needs 9,100 more diverse teachers (and 9,100 fewer White, monolingual teachers). Oregon needs to flip 29.3% of its current largely monolingual White teacher workforce to diverse teachers. It is not clear how many diverse teachers the HB 2742 would add over what timeframe.

Oregon Teachers 2016-17			
Linguistically & Ethnically Diverse Teachers			
data from figure 4, 2018 report			
		All Teachers	Diverse Teachers
Needed	39.4%	31,052	12,234
Current	10.1%	31,052	3,134
Gap	29.3%	31,052	9,100

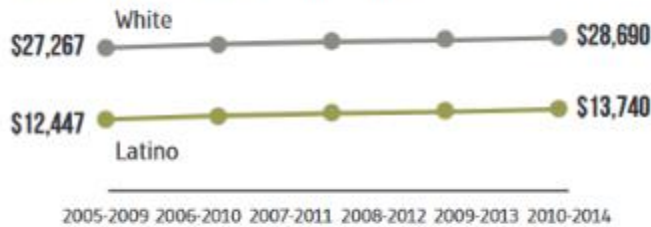
Of those 9,100 new diverse teachers, 5,618 should be bilingual Spanish-English Hispanic teachers.

Oregon Teachers			
Hispanic teachers			
		All Teachers	Hispanic Teachers
Needed	22.6%	31,040	7,015
Current	4.5%	31,040	1,397
Gap	18.1%		5,618



(2) HB 2742 limits student stipends to “a maximum of \$5,000 from the account per participant per school year or academic year and a maximum of four school or academic years.” Most diverse students come from low-income, low financial asset families. \$5,000 scholarships will not be enough support to entice or enable a sufficient number of them to become teachers. Nor will scholarship for just one or two years. They need scholarships that cover the full cost of four years of college.

Figure 22. Latino Oregonians have a lower per capita income than do white Oregonians.



Per capita income, American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

The University of Oregon estimates an academic year (3 terms, 45 credits) to cost (tuition, living and other expenses) \$27,366 for Oregon residents. OSU estimate \$26,937. And Western Oregon University estimates \$23,019.

To educate one student for four years at \$23,000 per year would cost \$92,000. To educate 9,100 students for four years each would cost \$837,200,000. This is what a phased in program over thirteen years might look like.

Diverse teacher students enrolled														
Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
1st year students	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910				
2nd year students		910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910			
3rd year students			910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910		
Graduates				910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	910	9,100
Total enrolled	910	1820	2730	3640	3640	3640	3640	3640	3640	3640	2730	1820	910	

Costs at \$23,000 per student per school year						
Year	1	2	3	4	5	6
1st year students	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000
2nd year students		\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000
3rd year students			\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000
4th year students				\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000
Yearly Total	\$20,930,000	\$41,860,000	\$62,790,000	\$83,720,000	\$83,720,000	\$83,720,000

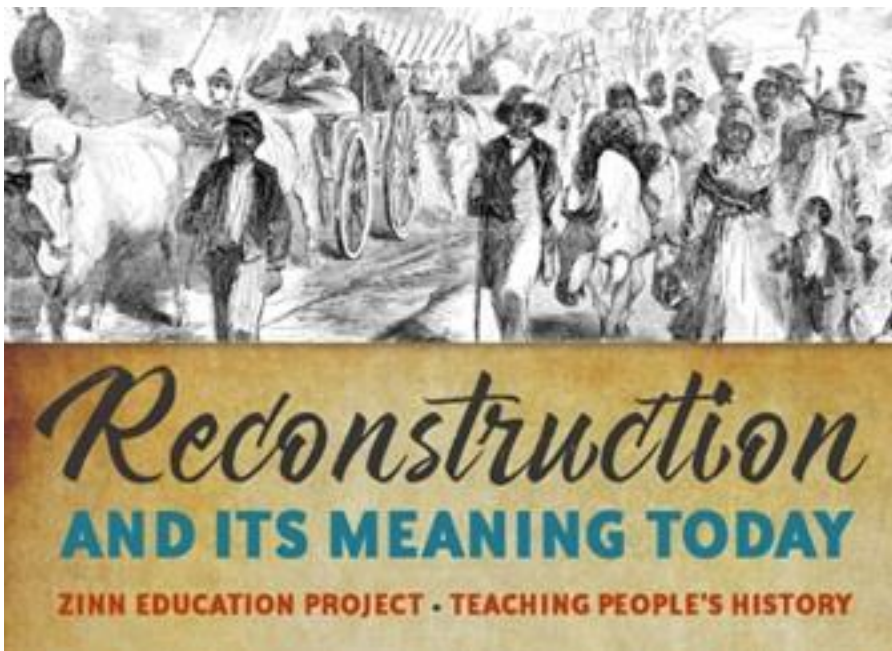
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Grand Total
	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000				
	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000			
	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000		
	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	\$20,930,000	
	\$83,720,000	\$83,720,000	\$83,720,000	\$83,720,000	\$62,790,000	\$41,860,000	\$20,930,000	\$837,200,000

(3) In HB 2742, the \$15 million in grants can pay for no more than 3,000 annual student stipends over the two year biennium. A few students might need only one or two years of support, but it is likely that most will need support for the full four years. So, initially there might be 1,000 stipends in the first year, then 2,000 stipends in the second (as 1,000 stipends from the first year also continue). Then years three and four of this program (in the next biennium) would need 3,000, then 4,000 stipends.

HB 2742 is a good start at reconstructing the teacher workforce to reflect the students it teaches. Please pass it out of committee.

Thank you.

Sincerely – Dave Porter



Structural Racism: A system in which public policies, institutional practices, cultural representations, and other norms work in various, often reinforcing ways to perpetuate racial group inequity. It identifies dimensions of our history and culture that have allowed privileges associated with “whiteness” and disadvantages associated with “color” to endure and adapt over time. Structural racism is not something that a few people or institutions choose to practice. Instead it has been a feature of the social, economic and political systems in which we all exist.