

From: [Miyamoto-Sundahl, Rina](#)
To: [JWMED Exhibits](#); [ROSSELLI Hilda - CEEd](#); [RANGEL Horalia](#)
Subject: Testimony for Oregon Teacher Scholars
Date: Thursday, March 7, 2019 7:02:28 PM

Dear Co-Chair Lew Frederick, Co-Chair Susan McLain and members of the Joint Ways and Means Committee for Education

I am testifying in favor of HB 5015 which has included support for the Oregon Teacher Scholars Program through the Educator Advancement Council.

I grew up bilingual and bicultural in Oregon after settling here from Japan with my family. It has given me great joy to be able to return to my hometown and give back to my culturally diverse community by serving as a Dual Language teacher in Spanish and English. I love that I have this opportunity to model to my young students valuing one's cultural background and continuing to seek to learn about the cultures of my neighbors as an adult. The Oregon Teacher Scholar program validates the importance of this work and of how much multiculturalism and multilingualism enriches children's learning. I believe it is a strong statement from Oregon, a historically racially exclusive state, about its commitment to diversifying its workforce culturally and linguistically to reflect the assets of the younger diverse generation.

Thank you for reviewing my testimony.

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Rina Miyamoto-Sundahl