

To Chair Williamson, Vice-Chairs Gorsek and Sprenger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Karen Beck, Member of the American Association of University Women of Oregon

Re: Support for House Bill 2562

I write this in support of House Bill 2562.

It is terribly disappointing that there is only one-quarter FTE State Title IX Coordinator at the Oregon Department of Education overseeing Title IX enforcement and prevention of gender-based harassment and discrimination in all of our K-12 schools. This means that school districts are on their own when developing policies for dealing with these important, sensitive issues. Our K-12 students are also on their own in trying to deal with them. When members of AAUW of Oregon attempt to deliver Title IX packages to schools, we often ran into schools where the Title IX Coordinator didn't even know who he or she was. Title IX isn't just about athletics. It addresses sexual harassment, bullying, access to STEM activities, and CTE programs. Without significant more attention being paid to authorize and actualize Title IX, enforcement and compliance, and prevention of gender-based discrimination, Oregon will be failing our students.

I urge you to support HB 2562.

Respectfully,

Karen Beck
Warrenton, Oregon