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4/11/19

Dear Co-Chair Roblan, Co-Chair Smith Warner and members of the Joint Committee on Student Success,

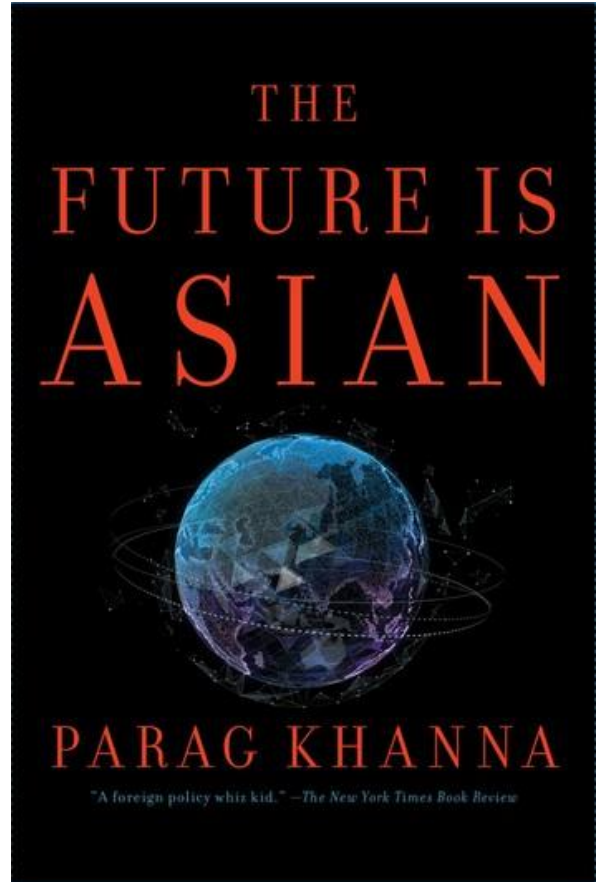
I write in support of HB 2019.

Current public education in Oregon does not prepare Oregon's next generations for the global economy nor for the geopolitical and national security issues of the future. Please have the Department of Education study consider the needed expansion of dual language immersion programs (especially Asian languages like Mandarin) and the development of needed high school study abroad programs (especially to China and other Asian countries).

Please consider the book *The Future is Asian* by Parag Khanna. From its dust jacket:

The "Asian Century" is even bigger than you think. Far greater than just China, the new Asian system taking shape is a multi-civilizational order spanning Saudi Arabia to Japan, Russia to Australia, Turkey to Indonesia — linking 5 billion people through trade, finance, infrastructure, and diplomatic networks that together represent 40 percent of global GDP. China has taken the lead in building the New Silk Road across Asia, but it will not lead it alone. Rather, Asia is rapidly returning to the centuries-old patterns of commerce, conflict, and cultural exchange that thrived long before European colonialism and American dominance. Asians will determine their own future — and as they collectively assert their interests around the world, they will determine ours as well.

There is no more important region of the world for us to understand than Asia — and thus we cannot afford to keep getting Asia so wrong. Asia's complexity has led to common misdiagnoses: Western thinking on Asia conflates the entire region with China, predicts imminent World War III around every corner, and regularly forecasts debt-driven collapse for the region's major economies. But in reality, the region is experiencing a confident new wave of growth led by younger societies from India to the Philippines, nationalist leaders have put aside territorial disputes in favor of integration, and today's infrastructure investments are the platform for the next generation of digital innovation.



If the 19th century featured the Europeanization of the world, and the 20th century its Americanization, the 21st century is the time of Asianization. From investment portfolios and trade wars to Hollywood movies and university admissions, no aspect of life is immune from Asianization. With America's tech sector dependent on Asian talent and politicians praising Asia's glittering cities and efficient governments, Asia is permanently in our nation's consciousness. We know this will be Asia's century. Now we finally have an accurate picture of what it will look like.

Thank you – Dave Porter

