

Testimony to Senate Education Committee for SB 52

I am a mother that watched her son struggle through high school as an openly gay student in a rural district. I was at a loss on how to best support him when schools are not equipped to support LGBTQ2SIA(plus) students or lack the education themselves on these issues. We need to take a hard look at why students are not reporting bullying, how those reports are being handled and implement supports to students so they can feel safe, heard and included in their schools.

Senate Bill 52 would provide the foundations for LGBTQ2SIA(plus) students to succeed no matter what district they are from. As a mother knowing that students in the smallest of districts across Oregon has access and supports put in place is why I support Senate Bill 52.

Thank you,
Sara Hepler
Clackamas County