

March 10, 2021

Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Thomsen and Members of the Committee:

I am writing as a citizen and a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Oregon, to express my strong support for Senate Bill 513.

Oregon is only one of eleven states that does not require a civics education class. Too many of our students are graduating without a solid understanding of democracy and the fundamentals of our civic responsibilities. Recent events clearly show that we need to reaffirm and reinforce our commitment to empowering students with the tools that sustain our democracy and their future.

Students who receive effective civics classes are more likely to be engaged citizens throughout their lives which is important for a truly democratic society. I urge you to support Senate Bill 513, for the good of our nation.

Sincerely,

Martha Maharg

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