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March 11, 2021

To: Senate Committee on Education; others

Re: I OPPOSE [SB 702] and [SB 732] and [SB 683]...

In re [SB 702]: exerts, "SECTION 1. (1) The Task Force on Social Studies Standards is established. (2) The task force consists of 11 members appointed as follows:..The members can represent any combination of the following but must include at least one member who is: (A) A public school student in any grade from grade 9 through 12; (B) A person who graduated from a public high school in 2015 or any subsequent year; (C) A public school teacher in any grade from grade 9 through 12; (D) An education advocate; (E) A voting rights advocate; (F) A representative of a culturally specific organization; and (G) A representative of the Department of Education. (3) The task force shall: (a) Review the social studies standards for kindergarten through grade 12, with an emphasis on civics education and making more accessible instruction related to: (A) Voting rights and how to vote; (B) Current and historical social movements; and (C) The roles of local governments and tribal governments...

...(11) The Department of Education shall provide staff support to the task force...

...(14) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, are directed to assist the task force in the performance of the duties of the task force and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to confidentiality, to furnish information and advice the members of the task force consider necessary to perform their duties..."

In re [SB 732]: exerts, "... There shall be established at each school district an educational equity advisory committee... (3)(a) An educational equity advisory committee shall be selected by the school district superintendent and must be composed of parents, teachers, students and community members from the school district. (b) For the purpose of selecting members, the school district superintendent: (A) Shall solicit names of possible members from the community; (B) Must ensure that membership represents the diversity of the student population for the school district; (C) May not exclude members based on immigration status; and (D) Must comply with any other requirements established by the State Board of Education by rule... SECTION 5. ORS 328.542 is amended to read: 328.542. (1) Subject to the Local Budget Law (ORS 294.305 to 294.565) and to sections 11 and 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, each school district board shall prepare annually or biennially the budget of the school district and shall certify ad valorem property taxes to the assessor as provided by law. (2) In addition to requirements prescribed by ORS 294.305 to 294.565, a school district shall consult with the educational equity advisory committee of the school district when creating and approving the budget.

In re [SB 683]: exerts, "... SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "racist history" means: (a) The history of acts and policies in the American colonies and the United States since 1619 that have been racist toward Black Americans; and (b) The past and ongoing consequences and impacts of racist acts and policies upon Black Americans. (2) As an integral part of social studies standards for public school students in kindergarten through grade 12, each school district must provide instruction on the racist history of this country and state... (2) The advisory group convened under this section shall consist of: (a) One or more members who specialize in existing and available curricula, standards and benchmarks for teaching racist history to students in kindergarten through grade 12; (b) Three members who are historians, including at least two members who are Black historians and who are recognized as experts on racist history; (c) One member who is a professor of racist history who teaches at a post-secondary institution of education in this state; and (d) One member who is an expert of racist history..."

["I look forward to the day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character"-(Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.).]

[14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, Section 1: "...nor deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."]

Intentional racist indoctrination of children, using and focusing on one race, Black is racism. Budgeting for the programs using the aforementioned property tax structure is contrary to the 14th Amendment. Oregon does not need any "Task Force" and or alteration in "social studies" to educate children on United States history. "Educational Equity Committees" smirk of "McCarthyism" and have no place in Oregon schools.

All the aforementioned legislation is pure racism and should be labeled and discarded.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall