JANEEN SOLLMAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 30



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 23, 2021

RE: Support of HB 2697

Chair Alonso Leon, Vice Chairs Weber and Neron and Members of the House Committee on Education.

I am proud to sponsor and write to you in support of HB 2697, which would require education providers to prohibit use or display of any symbols of hate on school property or in education programs. It also requires that education providers must have a policy related to bias incidents and displays of symbols of hate.

In September 2020 the Oregon Department of Education issued the All Students Belong Administrative Rule (OAR) that specifically identifies and prohibits the display of the same three or the most recognizable symbols of hate enumerated in HB 2697: the swastika, the Confederate flag, and the noose. I'm proud that the school district in House District 30, Banks, Beaverton and Hillsboro, adopted policies based on this OAR by year's end.

We need to codify these guidelines into statute with the passage of HB 2697. All of our students deserve an education experience free from intimidation and fear. I urge your support and look forward to its passage.

Thank you,

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Janeen Sollman