

February 3, 2022

Chair Representative Teresa Alonso Leon
Vice-Chair Representative Courtney Neron
Vice-Chair Representative Suzanne Weber
Members of the House Committee on Education

Re: Support for HB 4091 – Statewide Education Plan for Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander Students

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

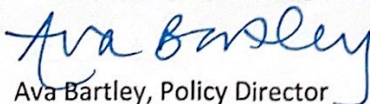
Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of **HB 4091**, a bill that directs the Department of Education to develop and implement a statewide education plan/student success plan for students who are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

FACT Oregon is the US Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, designated Parent Training Information (PTI) Center serving Oregon families as they navigate Special Education services. We help thousands of families each year navigate raising a child experiencing disability by providing peer delivered support, training, and resources. We support and equip families, wherever they may be on their journey. The outcome of our work is families with high expectations for their child and a vision for the future where our schools and communities are accessible, welcoming, and embrace that disability is natural.

We applaud the Oregon Department of Education's commitment to furthering equity for students from underserved groups, and we wholeheartedly support the "equity stance" it has adopted and the student success plans that have been put in place thus far to address the disproportionate results in education experienced by specific student populations.

The Student Success Act and the funding available through the Statewide Equity Initiatives Account is specifically aimed at improving educational opportunities for Oregon students, especially historically underserved student groups. We support this proposal for a plan that addresses the disproportionate results in education experienced by Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students, and we also appreciate the express intention in the bill that there will be strategies in the plan that will ensure alignment with other statewide student success plans.

Thank you for considering this testimony. *We urge you to vote "yes" in support of HB 4091.*



Ava Bartley, Policy Director
FACT Oregon