



TO: House Committee on Education
FROM: Stacy Michaelson, East Multnomah County Schools
DATE: February 15, 2023
RE: HB 3144

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony on behalf of the six school districts in East Multnomah County: Centennial, Corbett, David Douglas, Gresham-Barlow, Parkrose and Reynolds, as well as Multnomah Education Service District. Combined, these districts serve roughly 40,000 students.

These students are some of the most diverse in Oregon. Over half of our student population is of the global majority. Given the diversity of our students and their backgrounds, we take seriously the need for culturally-appropriate supports for all students in our schools.

Over 500 students across our districts identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. In some districts 5% of students are Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. Just as the state already has student success plans for Black/African American students, American Indian/Alaska Native students, Latino/a/x & Indigenous students, and LGBTQ2SIA+ students, we believe it will be beneficial to add a Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander Student Success Plan. The addition of this plan will ensure that these students receive the same consideration as other historically-underserved students while also recognizing the distinct experiences of these students.

We are happy to see this bill brought forward and urge your support. Thank you.