

Submitter: Maranatha Silafau
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB3014

Support for HB 3144 - Pacific Islander Student Success

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

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 3144, the Pacific Islander Student Success Act. My name is Maranatha Silafau and I am a student at North Medford High school. I support this bill because I have faced challenges in my own education, such as teachers not understanding my culture. I know that I, and students like me, deserve the same opportunities to succeed as our other classmates, but we need help. No racial or ethnic community is a monolith, and it's important we have data that correspond with how my community members self-identify so we can accurately measure how we're doing academically and determine when extra support is needed. PI community members should decide what that support looks like; that's why I am excited that HB3144 provides funding for community involvement in the development of the full Pacific Islander Student Success Plan. I also really appreciate that the PI community has been so involved with crafting this bill at every step of the way. Because of HB 3144, I feel seen and optimistic about my future. I urge you to vote YES on the Pacific Islander Student Success Act.

Thank you,
Marantaha "Nana" Silafau