

Submitter: Chris Bonner

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: SB776

Dear Senators Frederick, Jama, Manning, and Woods and Representative
Nelson for your time and efforts on this matter.

I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 776.

While it has taken me some time to fully understand the extent of the damage done by us White Americans to Black Americans due to enslavement, torture, intimidation, exclusion from public accommodations, careers and homes, I am now too aware to ignore it, and see how it affects the current environment we are in as a nation and as a State. We owe it to our own humanity to acknowledge and repair the horrors of the past. If we do not do so, we will be forever cursed by it and will not be able to heal.

There are plenty of examples of reparations being given to groups of people and the positive effect it had on relations afterwards. This bill will allow for discussion and problem solving to take place. It will not prescribe the fix, but allow for us to explore options. The people of Oregon are hungry for healing and this can be the start of that process.

Thank you.

Chris Bonner