



March 9, 2023

Submitter: Desi Nicodemus

Senate Committee On Education Measure: SB854

Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Desi Nicodemus, I work at Clackamas ESD as a Teacher Pathway Navigator which is funded by the EAC GYO funds and I also serve as a Milwaukie City Councilor. I am writing to express my strong support for SB 854, which seeks to significantly expand and integrate climate change instruction across all K-12 core subject areas. As you know, climate change is one of the most pressing issues facing our society today, and it is crucial that we educate our children about its causes, impacts, and potential solutions.

One of the most important aspects of SB 854 is its multidisciplinary approach to climate change instruction. By incorporating this topic into all K-12 core subject areas, including language arts, sciences, mathematics, social studies, health, physical education, and the arts, students will be able to make connections between the science of climate change and the ways in which it impacts all facets of life. This approach will not only provide students with a more comprehensive understanding of climate change but will also help them develop critical thinking skills and a sense of civic responsibility.

Another crucial aspect of SB 854 is its focus on the impacts of climate change on communities of color and low-income communities. As we know, these communities are disproportionately affected by climate change, and it is important that we provide students with an understanding of these inequities. By teaching students about the social, economic, and environmental impacts of climate change on these communities, we can help build a more just and equitable society.

In conclusion, I urge you to support SB 854 and its efforts to expand and integrate climate change instruction across all K-12 core subject areas. By doing so, we can ensure that our children are prepared to face the challenges of climate change and help build a more sustainable and equitable future for all.

Sincerely,

Desi Nicodemus

Teacher Pathway Navigator Clackamas ESD

Milwaukie City Councilor

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