



410 NE 18th Ave
Portland, OR 97232

LatinoNetwork

www.latnet.org
503.283.6881

To: Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, and all the members of the House Committee on Education

Re: Support

Date:

Latino Network was founded in 1996 by advocates for the needs of the growing Latinx community in Multnomah County. Since then, these grassroots beginnings have evolved into a continuum of services that support Latinx individuals, families, and communities. Our programs currently focus on education, advocacy & leadership, health & wellness, economic justice, youth empowerment & violence prevention, and arts & culture, engaging nearly 11,000 community members throughout Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties in the last year. We are the leading culturally-specific provider for Latinx youth, parent, and family services in the Portland area with the goal of serving the nearly 19% of Oregon's population who identify as Latinx or Hispanic.

Latino Network currently provides direct services to youth and families in Senate Districts 13 and 19-25 and House Districts 25, 37 and 42-50.

We HB 3288 to improve how schools collect race & ethnicity data.

We can't improve what we don't know and understand, we can't measure success on data we don't collect, and we can't see real improvements in our work if we are doing things inconsistently. By improving the collection of race and ethnicity data we can ensure our education systems from the state to the local level are prepared to make and meet equity goals. For far too long our communities have been made invisible and ignored when it comes to government investments and educational performance. For many years that inequity has been driven by blatant racism in our systems. As we continue to see "data-driven" and "best-practice" approaches lead both policy and funding decisions, we risk having our communities continually made invisible and ignored due to inaccurate and faulty systems that are supposed to reflect the real needs of communities across the state. We cannot correct racial disparities if we are not solidly aware of the demographics and how they overlay on outcomes data.

HB 3288 will ensure our state is developing a coherent and equitable statewide approach to data collection and phases the work over time to ensure consistency across the state.

Please support HB 3288