



ALIANZA PODER

A NETWORK OF SISTER ORGANIZATIONS

Date: March 23, 2023

To: Chair Senator Michael Dembrow, Vice-Chair Senator Suzanne Weber, and members of the Senate Committee On Education

From: Joanne Mina
Alianza Poder Network Coordinator
356 Young St, Woodburn, OR 97071

RE: Letter in opposition to SB 409

Dear members of the Senate Committee On Education

We, the directors of Alianza Poder, write on behalf of the Alianza Poder Network to express our wholehearted concern and opposition to SB 409 which seeks to ensure that the following information is made available to the public on the school district's website: The title of, or other descriptive information for, any textbooks and instructional materials used for the course and, when available, a link for the textbook or instructional materials; A syllabus for, or written summary of, the course; and when applicable, identification of the state academic content standards that are being satisfied by the course. Additionally, the district school board shall ensure that any changes get posted on the school district's website within 30 days after the change. Alianza Poder knows first hand about the needs of underserved parents and students and SB 409 does not align with our values of racial equity, dignity and respect for the Latine/a/o/x community and all.

Alianza Poder is a collaborative of sister organizations, which are serving, organizing, and building the leadership of our comunidades Latinas, Indigenas, y Afro-descendientes in Oregon to improve the quality of life for all, especially working families. Among the Alianza Poder (AP) organizations is Latinos Unidos Siempre (LUS) which is a POC youth-led-grassroots-social justice organization committed to educate, organize & mobilize within our own community.

LUS calls on our school districts to establish and invest permanently into resources that support the well-being and mental health of students. Students need permanent investments into: Culturally and gender affirming in-school as well as physical and mental health services, Inclusion of students with behavioral and physical disabilities, Hiring more staff and educators of color, Ethnic studies/culturally and gender affirming programs for middle school and high



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schools, Arts and music education in predominantly Black and Brown schools, Culturally and gender affirming after school activities, creation of programs and partnerships with community-led organizations led by Black, Indigenous, People of color, Culturally and gender affirming mentoring and tutoring programs for predominantly low-income schools, expansion of college prep programs for predominantly Black and Brown schools, and restorative justice models and systems within our schools. SB 409 does not fulfill any of our students' needs, furthermore, it created additional administrative burden for school districts, it empowers the anglo majority to bully racial minorities in Oregon by ongoing objecting to our history, present and future and it's a less effective way of communication with families about academic matters than the current system already used by many school district which is ParentVue and StudentVue.

Alianza Poder sister organizations: Pinos y Campesino Unidos del Noroeste (PCUN), Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, Mano a Mano Family Center, Latinos Unidos Siempre, Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos, Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas, Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality, Radio Poder 98.3, EVOLVE Workforce & Multifamily Housing Services and Capaces Leadership Institute urge you to stand firmly for the rights of historically oppressed peoples in Oregon and vote NO on SB 409 to protect Oregonians negatively impacted by our current education policies.

Sincerely,

Sandra Hernandez - Lomeli
Latinos Unidos Siempre (LUS)
Executive Director

Ana Gomez
Evolve Workforce & Multifamily Services
Operations Manager

Maria Elena Guerra
Farmworker Housing Development
Corporation (FHDC)
Executive Director

Reyna Lopez
Pinos y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste
(PCUN)
Executive Director

Levi Herrera-Lopez
Mano a Mano Family Center (MaM)
Executive Director

Jaime Arredondo
CAPACES Leadership Institute (CLI)
Executive Director



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Arturo Sarmiento
Radio Poder 98.3 FM KTUP
Director

Debbie Cabrales
Centro de Servicios Para Campesinos
Executive Director

Rebeca Velasquez
Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas
Executive Director

Dunetchka Otero-Serrano
Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality
Executive Director

If any questions arise please contact me at:
apcomms@capacesleadership.org
Joanne Mina, Alianza Poder Network
Coordinator