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Date: March 30, 2023

To: Senate Education Committee

From: Parasa Chanramy, Coalition of Oregon School Administrators

Subject: Support for Senate Bill 1050

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber, and Members of the Senate Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators and our over 2,800 members across Oregon, we urge you to pass Senate Bill 1050.

SB 1050 would:

- Help align the implementation timeline of Holocaust and Genocide Studies with the implementation of Ethnic Studies, starting in September 30, 2026;
- Directs the Department of Education to provide professional development for educators in their instruction around Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and Ethnic Studies.

Investing in educator professional development is key to building an educator's knowledge, skills, and capacity. Most importantly, deepening an educator's understanding of the new standards, as well as their ability to support students in meeting the learning goals, will have a tremendous impact on student achievement and growth.

For example, a number of school districts in Oregon are early adopters of the Ethnic Studies standards. Through on-going support and capacity building, the districts that have incorporated Ethnic Studies are seeing student engagement increase, social emotional connections strengthen, and academic achievement rise.

This progress is reinforced by the research as well. Students participating in Ethnic Studies coursework in this <u>multi-year study</u> experienced i) improvements in G.P.A. across disciplines, ii) higher high school graduation rates and college-going rates; and iii) increases in students' sense of belonging in school (<u>PNAS, September 2021</u>).

COSA supported the passage of the Ethnic Studies bill (HB 2845) in 2017; the Inclusive Instructional Materials bill (HB 2023) and the Holocaust and Genocide Studies bill (SB 664) in 2019; and now, we are excited to support the Professional Development for Ethnic Studies and Holocaust and Genocide Studies bill (SB 1050) this session to help the rollout and implementation of the new standards.

We urge you to vote YES on SB 1050.