



Salem Capital Pride

Written Testimony for Senate Bill 1592



Date: 2/8/24

Re: Salem Capital Pride Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 1592

Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

Salem Capital Pride appreciates the opportunity to submit the following testimony for Senate Bill 1592.

Salem Capital Pride seeks to elevate the voices of the LGBTQIA+ and other minority communities in the central Willamette Valley and provide opportunities for the promotion of and advocacy for those communities and our allies.

Salem Capital Pride is in support of this bill because it seeks to provide funding to help address mental health issues in our state. The LGBTQIA+ community has had a long struggle with mental health issues including depression, suicidal tendencies, as well as other issues which come about due to being not accepted for who they are. Therefore, we support this bill.

We would make the following suggested change to the bill for diversity, equity, and inclusion purposes:

- 1) Amend lines 19-21 to state “Providing behavioral and mental health services to individuals from underserved communities, including individuals who are veterans, homeless, living in rural environments, **or who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersexual, asexual, nonbinary or any other minority gender identity or sexual orientation.**”

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Salem Capital Pride