

Submitter: Stacey Boatright
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

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

My name is Stacey and I am writing to urge you to support SB1583, which will prohibit discrimination based on the race, religion, ability, country of origin, sexuality, or gender of the individuals featured in the content of educational and library materials in public elementary and secondary schools in Oregon.

In Oregon, we have seen countless efforts to ban books that feature LGBTQIA2S+ topics or individuals and restrict access for students to understand the positive contributions of individuals of marginalized identities who have contributed to our society. This bill creates a statewide standard ensuring freedom of information both to users of that information, as well as providers of that information, for example librarians and educators. It also ensures people have access to accurate and representative information about their histories, communities and selves, and creates more room for understanding over prejudice in Oregon.

Children should have access to diverse representation in the materials and history taught in the school setting. I urge you to support and advance SB 1583!

Thank you,

Stacey Boatright