

Submitter: Kris Moore
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

I am writing in support of SB 1583, which will prevent discrimination when selecting textbooks, instructional materials, program materials or library books.

The greatest internal threat to our constitutional republic is any assault on our freedom to learn and think. Censorship makes the free exchange of ideas impossible. Targeted materials have often included stories about people of color, women, and LGBTQ+ people. As a former middle school teacher and minister in United Methodist congregations, those censorship are abhorrant to me. As a retired adult, I have chosen to serve as board president of Garden Home Community Library, and value our library's commitment to welcoming all people. School libraries expanded my world -- I remember Mrs. Bosshardt at Mooberry Elementary School in Hillsboro, pointing me toward biographies, histories, and more. Librarians at Hillsboro High School, from which I graduated in 1978, encouraged my explorations, including supporting my involvement in forensics under the leadership of your colleague, Rep. Susan McLain. Libraries made me more informed, more compassionate, and more committed.

Please pass SB 1583, which I believe will help prevent these dangerous book bans and removal attempts.