

Submitter: Brandace Rojo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

To whom this may concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 1583, and I urge you to vote in favor of this crucial piece of legislation when it comes up for a vote.

SB 1583 is vital for preventing discrimination in the selection of textbooks, instructional materials, program materials, and library books in our public schools. It brings much-needed clarity to help schools and school boards comply with the prohibition on discrimination as required by ORS 659.850.

There has been a concerning trend across the United States of attempts to censor library and curriculum materials in public schools, and Oregon is no exception. SB 1583 is a crucial step in preventing these censorship attempts and preserving the diversity of viewpoints in our educational materials.

As a minority and a library worker, I understand the importance of ensuring that students see themselves reflected in their community and have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate materials. It is imperative that we carefully select books, magazines, educational videos, and experiences that reflect our student populations.

Furthermore, SB 1583 ensures that important educational texts and materials remain available to all students who need them, regardless of their background or identity, so that they have the best chance at a successful education.

I urge you to pass SB 1583 with the proposed amendment from the Oregon Library Association. This bill is essential for promoting inclusivity, diversity, and academic freedom in our public schools.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your dedication to ensuring equitable access to education for all Oregon students.

Sincerely,