

Bonnie Brzozowski  
6153 Nelson Pl SW  
Albany, OR 97321

Dear Senate Committee on Education,

I am writing in support of SB 1583. As a librarian, I understand the importance of diversity in educational materials and the detrimental effects book bans and censorship have on access to educational materials. I believe SB 1583 will do the following:

- Prevent discrimination when selecting textbooks, instructional materials, program materials or library books in public schools.
- Bring needed clarity to help schools and school boards comply with the prohibition on discrimination required by ORS 659.850.
- Prevent the book bans and removal attempts that the U.S. is experiencing an explosion of. Many of these attempts are blatant in their opposition to LGBTQ+ materials. These censorship attempts intend to limit the materials available to Oregon students based solely on the constitutionally protected viewpoints of those materials. I believe SB 1583 will help prevent these book bans and removal attempts.
- Allow students to see themselves reflected in their community. It is critical to carefully select books, magazines, educational videos and experiences that reflect our student populations in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. Librarians and educators are trained and highly skilled at selecting appropriate educational resources for their students.

I want to make sure that important educational texts and materials are available to those students who need them. Please pass SB 1583 with the proposed amendment from the Oregon Library Association.

Thank you,  
Bonnie Brzozowski