

Submitter: Michelle Hsu
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

Please support SB1583 to keep a diversity of information and materials selected by professional educators and librarians in public schools in Oregon. Book bans and censorship are discriminatory and hurt students, school staff and communities of protected classes. It is unacceptable to allow extremist groups in their persistent attempts to limit, control and censor information to exclude learning materials representing those already marginalized. Exposure to the history and lived experiences of people of diverse backgrounds shows that everyone contributes to humanity. We are not a monolith. Those not supporting SB1583 are attempting to censor and hide from truth leading to misguided ignorance and divisiveness. Supporting SB1583 will allow educators their First Amendment rights to free speech encouraging expansive analysis and thinking. As a librarian, I strongly encourage legislators to support SB1583. Thank you.