

Submitter: Harold Treinen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1583

TO: Senate Committee on Education, House Rules Committee

FROM: Your Name, Affiliation if Applicable

RE: Support for SB1583

Date: _03/06/2024_____

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

My name is _Harold Treinen_____ 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.

[Add 1-2 paragraphs here about your own personal connection to this issue and why you support this bill. Example: "As a high school librarian and queer person, I know how important it is for our youth to see their stories reflected in the books they read, and to know that they are not alone and there is nothing wrong with them. I support this bill so that my students can have access to all histories and cultures, and so that I as an educator am not limited by political whims."]

SB1583 does not change any individual parent's or guardian's right to monitor or oversee what their own children read or view. It does protect the rights of ALL parents and guardians for their children to have access to diverse representation in materials and history taught in the school setting.

I know that those who support banning, have a choice, "you don't have to read anything you object to". Let people have access, and make their rightful choices for themselves, it's the right thing to do in all moral, philosophical, reasons, for truth in the knowledge to access and learn value from.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my story today. We hope you will vote YES to support and advance SB1583.

Thank you, __Harold Treinen_____