

**SB 1098 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

Carrier: Sen. Robinson

Senate Committee On Education

Minority Report

**Action Date:** 03/17/25**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.) Minority**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact**Revenue:** No revenue impact**Report Signers:** Sen. Robinson, Sen. Weber**Prepared By:** Chris Bechtel, LPRO Fellow**Meeting Dates:** 3/3, 3/17**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure defines a school library and requires each public school district to adopt a policy for selecting and removing materials in school libraries. The policy must include that the school district is responsible for adding or removing materials, and that individuals may recommend adding or removing materials, but the school district will make the final decision. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Impacts on students when they read about different cultures and different perspectives
- Impacts of banning books on children
- Examples of book bans in Oregon
- How the book removal process works under the measure
- Local control of the process

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Replaces the measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

ORS 337.141 instructs the State Board of Education to adopt a list of textbooks and other instructional materials that may be used by a school district, as well as guidelines and criteria for local school boards to use in selecting textbooks and instructional materials not included on the Board's list. The Board guidelines for independent adoption of materials are outlined in [OAR 581-022-2350](#). The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) also publishes criteria for the selection of textbooks and instructional materials organized by subject matter.

The Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse (OIFC), established in 1987 by the State Library of Oregon, publishes an annual report on challenges to materials, services, and programs in Oregon public libraries and school libraries. The process for reporting challenges to the OIFC is voluntary, and the accuracy of the report depends on the number of institutions that choose to report challenges. Therefore, the report may not be exhaustive of all challenges against library materials in Oregon public schools.

According to the [2024 report](#), there were 68 challenges made against materials in public libraries between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, 47.5 percent of which occurred at school libraries. Several of these challenges included multiple titles. A total of 127 titles were challenged during this time period, the highest in a single year since the group began collecting data. Commonly cited reasons for challenges against materials were claims that the materials were sexually explicit and challenges due to LGBTQIA2S+ content in the materials.