

March 1, 2025

TO: Senate Committee on Education
FROM: Chloe Acosta, Our Children Oregon
SUBJECT: Support for HB 3012

Chair Federick, Vice-Chair Weber, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of SB 1098. My name is Chloe Acosta and I am a Policy and Advocacy Intern for Our Children Oregon (OCO), a statewide organization that advances equitable policies, data and research, and whole-child advocacy.

SB 1098 is included in the 2025 Children's Agenda and has strong and broad support from our partner organizations across Oregon. I am here to represent not only my own personal support of SB 1098, but also the support of Our Children Oregon.

As a second generation educator, I know how important it is for students to see their stories reflected in the books they read. I have witnessed students light up when they return from the school library with a book that has a character that looks like them. One student told me, "Ms. Acosta I didn't know they made books with people like me." I want to ensure students' rights are protected and they get to continue reading free of censorship.

Our Children Oregon urges you to support and vote yes on SB 1098.

Thank you,
Chloe Acosta, Policy and Advocacy Intern, Our Children Oregon