

**Kate Brown**  
**Governor**



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Testimony – Oregon Advocacy Commissions Leadership  
Joint Committee on Student Success, April 2, 2019, 5pm, Hearing Room F

Co-Chairs Roblan and Smith Warner, Co-Vice-Chairs Knopp and Smith, and members of the Committee:

I am Dr. Daniel López-Cevallos, Vice Chair of the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs. Thank you for this invitation to comment on the important and intentional work of this committee. We support your and the Governor's policy and investment work to assure all our children achieve educational success and look forward to working in partnership to further it. Through our work over the years with state policy makers and community, we understand that equity is critical for success in public policy, and must support models of excellence in linguistically and culturally appropriate, and trauma informed practice, engagement with community, with measures of success that help guide the work along the way.

We have prepared statements today that come from the work of the Oregon Advocacy Commissions both individually and intersectionally where we believe sustained investments will positively affect our communities statewide, in urban and rural areas. The OAC Chairs and I have asked education champions from each of our Commissions to address some key concerns, adding their personal insights to their testimony. This includes the Oregon Commission for Women's work on raising support for Title IX and reducing toxic environments for learning, I will address the Oregon Commission on Hispanic Affairs' work with OHA and DHS on Mental Health and students, the Oregon Commission on Black Affairs' research with ODE on the relationship between teacher preparation and reducing disproportionate discipline, and OCAPIA's support of courses and leadership skills building for success among immigrant and refugee students in college ready or trade ready environments.

We share with you the underlying tenets of great education and deeply appreciate your ongoing work and commitment, statewide.

- We believe that all children are entitled to a safe, secure and healthy environment that offers equal opportunities for learning in a culturally responsive manner.
- We believe gaining achievement and attainment requires applying an equity lens on how disparities and gaps whether by gender, race, ethnicity, gender identity, ableness, location, or income, need to be met with investments that are based on culturally responsive opportunities and targeted access.
- We believe that state wide efforts need to be responsive to community and cultural planning for implementation.
- We believe that there should be targeted programs to diversify the teaching workforce and to support their work with on-going culturally responsive programs during their career.

And now OAC Commissioners will offer personal testimony to support these beliefs.

Dr. Daniel López-Cevallos, OCHA Vice Chair

Chanpone Sinlapasai-Okamura, OCAPIA Chair

Irma Linda Castillo, OCHA Chair

Jamal Fox, OCBA Chair

Dr. Barbara Spencer, OCFW Chair

**OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs**

Chanpone Sinlapasai-Okamura, Chair  
David Yuen Tam, Vice Chair  
Legislative members:  
Senator Michael Dembrow  
Representative Carla Piluso

**OR Commission on Black Affairs**

Jamal Fox, Chair  
Lawanda Manning, Vice Chair  
Legislative members:  
Representative Janelle Bynum

**OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs**

Irma Linda Castillo, Chair  
Dr. Daniel López-Cevallos, Vice Chair  
Legislative members:  
Senator Sara Gelser  
Representative Teresa Alonso León

**OR Commission for Women**

Dr. Barbara Spencer, Chair  
Vice Chair (vacant)  
Legislative members:  
Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson  
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