Oregon HB 2023 (2019) is the latest effort to mandate coercive indoctrination into identity politics under the false guise of liberal education. Democracy demands (1) accurate factual history teaching, so that citizens know who we are and where we came from; plus (2) open discourse or free speech, so that cumulative knowledge becomes self-correcting. HB 2023 (1) replaces actual history with indoctrination that grossly alters it, and (2) coercively mandates instructing in but one viewpoint – one that's favored in today's Oregon, but neither universal nor necessarily in the public interest. If you want to promote identity politics, please do it through legitimate political process that allows for debate among multiple viewpoints. Otherwise, we have quasi-Marxism – not real democracy.

Thank you,

John Oakley Beahrs

Portland, Oregon April 30, 2019