

Senate Committee on Education
Senate Bill 52

Chair Dembrow and Committee Members,

Thank you for hearing this bill. I am a gay student that is currently a senior in high school. I have spent my entire education in Oregon public schools. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 52.

When I was in middle school, I experienced a lot of bullying through homophobic slurs and many other horrible forms. Because of these things I was constantly under massive amounts of stress and felt like I could not trust anybody in my school. The teachers either never noticed what was going on or showed no signs of trying to stop it from happening. This caused me to distrust the school itself and the teachers. Because of all this stress and distrust, I could never focus on any of my schoolwork and I suffered for it. If I had something like what this bill will achieve when this was happening to me, I would have had a much easier time with school and learning. But because there was not anything like this, I have had to struggle through almost every year of school up until this point.

Please support Senate Bill 52.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kellar Wells