

TO: Senate Committee on Education

As a member of AAUW Oregon and resident of Portland OR, I want to strongly endorse your adoption of Senate Bill 513. I live a few blocks from the ICE building in the South Waterfront and across the street from the park where protesters who became rioters gathered on too many nights. A new initiative the Roadmap to Educating for American Democracy says it best, if we wish to achieve unity in our great nation we must help students understand not only what civics is as a concept, but also understand what actions they take influence how we come together or become more divisive in our attempts to keep our democracy alive. There is no more important issue before you for deliberation. Protecting our climate, learning to govern, lowering houselessness, and finding equality and equity for all Oregonians depends on helping our students learn and our teachers teach what it means to be an informed citizen working for positive outcomes. Thank you.

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