



To: Senate Committee on Education

From: Liz Bartell, MSW, LCSW  
Astoria AAUW, President

Re: SB 513

Date: 3/7/2021

This is written testimony sent on behalf of the Astoria Branch of the American Association of University Women. We strongly support Senate Bill 513.

It's crucial to the future of our state and nation that citizens be well-informed of the processes of government. Increased civic engagement and trust of government could well be the outcomes of including the topic of civics in Oregon's primary and secondary schools. We see this as vital to the health and vigorousness of our state and nation.

We have recently experienced a refocusing of action regarding the democratic process in this country. This is an opportune moment. Let's set an example for the nation. Lively, engaging civics education courses should be an educational requirement in Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.