

I am asking for support of Oregon House Bill 2337: Declaring racism a public health crisis

Racism is embedded in the very fabric of our society.

This bill creates a sustainable infrastructure that is responsive to the specific health disparities of BIPOC and immigrant people. It is a start, in addressing the conversation of racism, in a legislative manner. Covid has only revealed the already existing health disparities in particular populations in America and in Oregon. We must include people from diverse backgrounds in coming to the table to acknowledge mistakes of the past, understand continued patterns of racist social and institutional practices and work to correct those ways, moving forward to create a level playing field and just society for all.

Racism truly is a public health crisis. This crisis is felt by indigenous people and people of color who experience this first-hand. Racism is also a crisis for the white population. It is a crisis for white leaders who pursue tyrannical laws and rules, for folks who fight to maintain the status quo and for the rest of us who can no longer continue with blinders on.

We must not only fight for a better future for ALL of us; we must plan and put into practice, provisions which will make this effort a reality.

Please support HB2337