

Dear Chair Alonso Leon, Vice Chairs Neron and Weber, and Members of the House Education Committee,

For the record, my name is Aurora Davis. I am a senior at Tualatin High School and am involved in the school community as a varsity athlete, four-year ASB officer, NHS President, and Student Body President. I am supportive of HB 3363 because as a white individual in a high school where the majority (53 percent) of students are white, I believe that promoting the educational success of all students should be a top priority. For example, even though I have had BIPOC students in all of my advanced and IB classes throughout high school, I notice that BIPOC students are not proportionally represented. In fact, of the 41 students in the Full IB Diploma Program last year, students of color made up only fourteen (34 percent). I also notice that white students more commonly speak up or monopolize discussions. Ultimately, these factors lead to less diversity of thought and a far less enriching educational experience for all students. I believe that establishing a Racial Equity and Justice Council that values the voices of traditionally and currently underserved students will help mitigate these blatant issues of inequality to not only support racial justice but also the success of all Oregon students.

Thank you for your time and for the opportunity to share my thoughts. I urge you to vote yes on HB 3363.