

## SB 227 Testimony from Helen Ying

February 10, 2021

Chair Dembrow and Members of the committee,

My name is Helen Ying. I live in Multnomah county and currently serve on the Multnomah Education Service District Board. I am also on the board of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge.

I was appointed to serve on the Ethnic Studies Advisory Group representing The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs in November 2017. The advisory group got to work right away with an inaugural meeting on November 28, 2017. Looking back at my notes from that inaugural meeting, I see clearly that we noted, in addition to making recommendations regarding ethnic studies standards within the existing statewide Social Studies Standards for public school students, it is imperative that we include the following recommendations in the report:

- 1) Funding for professional development
- 2) Funding for curriculum development
- 3) Accountability measures

The advisory group worked together long and hard in developing ethnic studies standard recommendations to ensure that the Oregon social studies content standards would truly be inclusive and comprehensive. We, the advisory group completed its work in June 2019 and the recommendation report was submitted to the Oregon Department of Education on July 31, 2019.

Many in the community including teachers and students, are ready to begin the work and looking forward to the full implementation of HB 2845. SB 227 will help to move the dial for the implementation work. I urge you to support the passage of SB 227.