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Next Up Action Fund



February 15, 2022

RE: Support for SB 4107 - Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements

Chair Smith Warner, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson and Fahey, and Members of the House Rules Committee,

For the record my name is Elona J Wilson, I use she/her pronouns, and I am the Executive Director of Next Up Action Fund which works to amplify the voice and leadership of diverse young people to build political power and fight for a more just and equitable Oregon. I am also a steering committee member for the Reimagine Oregon Project which exists to bring Black community members, groups and organizations together behind the advancement of Black centered and Black originated policy proposals in an effort to dismantle systemic racism in Oregon. We are a collective accountability tool led by Black leaders designed to hold multiple jurisdictions accountable to the goal of beginning to end systemic racism in Oregon.

Every year, the legislature passes legislation that disproportionately impacts our communities, that is why we are boldly supporting HB 4107-1 the implementation of Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements and would like to thank Chair Smith Warner, her team and LPRO for their commitment to getting this legislation right.

As this state continues to make headway in scaffolding the most impacted communities, the Racial and Ethnic Impact Statements will create a process that ensures that legislators understand the foreseeable ramifications and outcomes of the legislation that they consider passing. We must equip legislators with as much relevant information as possible when the decisions they make directly impact our communities in potentially drastic ways.

This is exactly what Oregon needs to start doing lawmaking differently.

On behalf of Next Up Action Fund and the Reimagine Oregon Project, I urge you to take action by voting yes HB 4107.

Thank you,

Elona J Wilson
Executive Director