

Submitter: Virginia Connell

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On General  
Government

Measure: HB5001

To Whom It May Concern: I am an RN and public educator in our community. As an engaged citizen who wants to see real change for Oregonians who have been discriminated against throughout our history, I believe it is very important to allocate significant funds to the OACO so that the office can continue its important work. A lack of funding to this office means that equality for all Oregonians is not a priority for the Governor and state of Oregon. I am tired of seeing only lip service and performative action when we need real change. Change is very difficult and slow, and is impossible without funding and staffing. Please do the right thing, and allocate significant funds to OACO, that will allow for staff to do their important work in the community. If you want to center equity, you must also have equity in resources. Thank you for your time!