Submitter: Ethelyn Tumalad-Granados

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure: HB3144

February 15, 2023

Re: Support for HB 3144 - Pacific Islander Student Success

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 3144, the Pacific Islander Student Success Act. My name is Ethelyn Tumalad-Granados and I am an educator at Clackamas High School in the North Clackamas School District. In September of 2021, I was named Oregon Teacher of the Year for 2022, the first Southeast Asian educator in the state to be named as such. I support this bill because I have seen first hand what resources towards those who are Pacific Islander can do, such as our Pacific Islander and Native Hawaiian Community Outreach facilitator and being the advisor for Clackamas High School's Asian Pacific Islander Student Union. I know that students in my classroom who reflect the identity of Pacific Islander deserve, deserve the same opportunities to succeed as our other classmates, but we need help. No racial or ethnic community is a monolith, and it's important we have data that correspond with how my community members self-identify so we can accurately measure how we're doing academically and determine when extra support is needed. PI community members should decide what that support looks like; that's why I am excited that HB3144 provides funding for community involvement in the development of the full Pacific Islander Student Success Plan. I also really appreciate that the PI community has been so involved with crafting this bill at every step of the way. Representation is so important and therefore HB 3144 will help with PI representation and support. Because of HB 3144, I feel seen and optimistic about my student's future, which means it's for ALL students' futures. I urge you to vote YES on the Pacific Islander Student Success Act.

Thank you,
Ethelyn Tumalad-Granados
Oregon Teacher of the Year, 2022
Beaverton