

Re. SB 776 Public Hearing  
Submitted by Robert C Brooks Jr  
Feb. 28, 2023

To:  
Senators Lew Frederick, Kayse Jama, James Manning Jr., Aaron Woods  
and Representative Travis Nelson

Bill Title: Relating to a task force on reparations for Oregonians of African American descent;  
prescribing an effective date.

For all the reasons outlined in SB 776, I support this bill that would move the task force toward appropriate remedies these impacts have had on living African Americans. I applaud these efforts and recommend appropriate ways to educate the citizens of the Commission's findings.

Following the abolition of slavery, the United States Government, at the Federal, State, and local level, continued to perpetuate, condone, and often profit from practices that continued to brutalize and disadvantage African Americans, including share cropping, convict leasing, Jim Crow, redlining, unequal education, and disproportionate treatment at the hands of the criminal justice system.

As a result of the historic and continued discrimination, African Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, predatory financial practices and health hardships including but not limited to having unnecessary and substantial incarceration and unemployment rates more than twice the current non-African Americans and an average of less than  $\frac{1}{16}$  of the wealth of non-African American families, a disparity which has worsened, not improved over time.

I remain confident, the injuries resulting from matters described above can be corrected and provide appropriate policies, programs, projects, and recommendations to Congress for the purpose of rectifying the injuries.

Respectfully,

Robert C Brooks, Jr