

Submitter: Nora Whalen

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure: SB421

Dear Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber, and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

My name is Nora Whalen, I am a junior at South Eugene High School.

I am writing to you in support of SB 421. I firmly believe in the power of youth voices and how impactful it is to have diversity in discussions around climate justice. I have watched as climate change has affected my hometown Eugene, and the entire state while noticing that people have become disinterested in efforts to help change what's happening. We must have youth voices heard and uplifted in our communities to bring awareness to the issues at hand. Diversity is needed in these discussions to accurately represent all of Oregon. This includes geographical representation from around the state, LGBTQ+, disabled, tribal youth, and BIPOC members of our communities. To continue making a positive impact on our future we must first encourage diverse, youth voices to be heard.

Thank you so much for your time. I urge you to vote yes on SB 421.

Nora Whalen