

Submitter: Kai Koran

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Veterans, Emergency Management, Federal
and World Affairs

Measure: SB776

I am a white person writing in support of this bill. I'm going to keep this brief because I know many others are going to provide you with the full historical details supporting the need for this bill. I'll just say this: Oregon was born as a whites only state and as recently as 2002, a third of its population voted to keep racist language in our constitution. In many arenas I am proud to be an Oregonian, and consider myself lucky to reside here, but in the area of rejecting racism and healing its long-term effects on our fellow citizens, we have a long way to go. Per capita income for white Oregonians in 2021 was \$38,688. Compare this to that of Black Oregonians: \$29,519. Look at homeownership in 2022: white Oregonians - 67.3%. Black Oregonians - 38.8%. This data is from the United Health Foundation via their "America's Health Rankings" website. Reparations alone will not solve these disparities, but it will help. I urge you to take the next step on our State's journey towards upholding justice and equity for all people. Thank you.