

NANCY OSA EDITORIAL

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To Whom It Concerns:

Please acknowledge my support for 1583 regarding requiring the prohibition of discrimination, which promotes diversity of voices and knowledgeable sources in text books in our state.

As a children's author who enjoyed self-directed learning in high school in the 1970s, I was free to find my own learning path and wish today's scholars to have the opportunity to hear many viewpoints. Any material that might adversely affect individuals in the public schools is already assessed by teachers and librarians, the professionals best situated to guide students' text selection.

I believe that citizens who wish to curtail inclusive texts can simply instruct their own children not to read them rather than infringe on the rights of others.

In earnest,

Nancy Osa

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Author of **Cuba 15** (Random House/Delacorte)
Delacorte Press Prize for a First Young Adult Novel
Booklist Top Ten First Novel for Youth
ALA Pura Belpré Author Honor Book
YALSA Best Book for Young Adults
Scholastic Book Club Selection
Américas Award Honor Book
Oregon Book Award Finalist
ALSC Notable Book