

Submitter: Lia Adamson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

To Members of the Senate Committee on Education,

I'm a public library worker in Klamath Falls and am writing to express my strong support for SB1583. This bill will support the lives of young people who hold marginalized identities by providing materials that reflect their identity. It's so important for students to see themselves reflected through library books, textbooks, and instructional materials. I'm also a MSW (Master of Social Work) student at Portland State University, and recently learned about Oregon's racist and exclusionary history through a social justice lens. While I grew up in Seattle, a bit different than Oregon, my private and public-school education did not provide me with an accurate understanding of our history and society. If I could re-do my education, I would be better equipped today had I learned about history that included diverse voices.

Censorship of library and curriculum materials in public schools and libraries is ever-present, targeting LGBTQIA+ materials. Senate Bill 1583 will help prevent book bans and removal attempts. Upholding the values of intellectual freedom, social justice, and equality, I urge you to support this bill. Thank you for considering my testimony.