

Submitter: Mary Ginnane
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

To the Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Education:

These times remind one of 1992 when the Oregon Citizens Alliance initiated Ballot Measure 9 -- the statewide measure proposing to amend the Oregon Constitution to ban government promotion of homosexuality including through library materials. The measure was soundly defeated with 56.47% "no" votes. There were subsequent OCA measures, also defeated. Oregonians decided multiple times to uphold the rights of LGBTQ Oregonians and of schools and libraries to make available materials to read about LGBTQ persons. Society is undergoing a resurgence of this cyclical targeting of LGBTQ rights (and that of other groups) and the freedom to read and learn about them. ORS 659.850 goes a long way in prohibiting discrimination against targeted groups and passing SB 1583 will further protect access to curriculum and library materials about them. I request that the Committee on Education advance this bill for passage.

Thank you,

Mary Ginnane

Member of the Oregon Library Association's 1992 committee to defeat Measure 9