

Submitter: Patrick Bodily

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure: SB1583

To the Senate Committee on Education:

I'm writing to express my support for SB 1583 that will prevent discrimination when selecting textbooks, instructional materials, program materials or library books that are used in the public schools of Oregon.

Students in our schools deserve to both see themselves reflected in the pages of a book and to learn about lived experiences of others that are different than their own in the materials they have access to. Our students should be able to see themselves reflected in their community and in the books they read. It is up to libraries to provide materials to all, and should be up to families to determine whether they access those materials.

Prohibiting the banning of materials will ensure that access to accurate information is possible for those who wish to do so. People have the right to choose what they want to read, but no one person should have the right to determine what others cannot access.

I ask that you vote yes on SB 1583 to support Oregonians. Let them make choices for themselves and their households, without taking away the rights and access to information of others.