



Libraries of Eastern Oregon

PO Box 233

Baker City, OR 97814

541-362-4258

leolibraries@gmail.com

www.librariesofeasternoregon.org

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As the Board of Directors for the Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO), the resource sharing cooperative that supports the 40+ public libraries east of the Cascades, in Baker, Crook, Gilliam, Grant, Jefferson, Harney, Hood River, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco, and Wheeler counties, we are submitting this letter **in support** of SB 1583.

Several LEO member libraries are dual school/public libraries, so the matter of prohibiting discrimination when selecting textbooks, instructional materials, program materials or library books that are used in the public schools of this state is directly relevant to us and our members. The service area covered by LEO's member libraries is further connected by a shared library catalog, covering public, school, academic, and special libraries, and we feel it is important to support our community members and students in the foundational library value of free and open access to materials and our strong state right to freedom of information.

SB1583 does not propose to take away local school board control or parental rights whatsoever: it simply emphasizes existing law prohibiting discrimination in education. The outcome of this bill proposal will be a significant lesson for Oregon students; we believe the state will be a victory for champions of freedom, dignity, and justice.

The Libraries of Eastern Oregon Board of Directors

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