

Submitter: Lora Worden
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

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As an elementary school librarian, I support Senate Bill 1583.

In my classes, I teach my students two essential skills: how to interact with information and how to interact with people.

No matter what your background is or what your life goals are, you will need to know how to think critically and how to build relationships.

Reading or listening to a wide variety of books and stories teaches us both, which is why it's important that we provide our students with accurate information about the rich and complex history of our state, our country, and the world.

I often ask my students these questions:
Who's telling the story?
Why are they telling it?
What do they want you to believe?
And perhaps most importantly:
Whose story is not being told? Why not?

Senate Bill 1583 helps to ensure that people's stories are not erased.

Senate Bill 1583 aligns with the American Library Association's Bill of Rights, and also ensures that schools have access to resources that help them to meet educational standards ranging from Oregon Social Science Standards to Oregon Health Education Standards to Oregon Social & Emotional Learning Standards and more.

For all these reasons, and more, I support Senate Bill 1583.