

Submitter: Benjamin Van Ryzin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: SB1583

Hello, I'm a 35 year old registered democrat and I am concerned what is occurring in the state's public schools. To begin national polling and test scores show Oregon failing in so many important categories that if bolstered would help the state compete in science and manufacturing. Test scores in mathematics have not reversed the downtrend seen after the pandemic and rank next to Mississippi and Louisiana in test grades. This is not acceptable, and instead of addressing these issues which directly hurt the foundation of our state, the legislature chooses to try to push through a bill that uses language (ie: discrimination) that everyone agrees is bad to enact changes to school curriculum and age appropriate educational materials in schools. The use of emergency declaration is an affront to actual emergencies. I support anti-discrimination, but from my educational upbringing I was never talked to about gender ideology. In high school we had sex education but it was age appropriate and it was based on scientific fact, but it was a class everyone hated. By putting so much emphasis on gender ideology in schools we shift students attention from classes that actually are important in brain development (math, physics, chemistry, biology, writing and critical thinking) and push the students to focus more on their self-ideology, self-centeredness and trauma. I believe localities should determine what is taught in schools and what materials are available to students. This seems like over reach and therefore I oppose any broad sweeping declaration that forces localities to change the way educational materials are developed.