



June 18, 2025

Oregon House of Representatives
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Recognizing and Honoring Oregon's Black Drag Community

Dear Members of the Oregon House of Representatives,

On behalf of Oregon Pride in Business (ORPIB), the state's LGBTQ+ and allied chamber of commerce, we write to express our strong support for HR 3, recognizing and honoring Oregon's vibrant Black drag community.

Oregon has long been home to diverse and thriving LGBTQ+ communities, and Portland's Black drag performers have contributed immeasurably to this legacy. From performances rooted in resistance and joy to building platforms of visibility and acceptance, Oregon's Black drag community—dating back as far as 1958—has shaped a cultural identity that is bold, inclusive, and transformative. Their artistry and leadership have inspired countless others and strengthened our broader movement for justice and equality.

June is Pride Month, a time to honor the hard-won progress of LGBTQ+ communities and recommit to the work still ahead. Juneteenth, now a national and state holiday, marks the emancipation of enslaved Black Americans and serves as a solemn and celebratory reminder of the ongoing fight for racial equity. Oregon's Black drag community stands at the powerful intersection of these histories—bringing to life stories of liberation through performance, activism, and business.

As an organization committed to uplifting LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs and creatives, ORPIB recognizes the essential role Black drag artists play in driving cultural innovation, community connection, and economic vitality across our state. We urge your full support of this resolution and commend you for helping to ensure Oregon's Black drag legacy is honored, preserved, and celebrated.

Sincerely,

Oregon Pride in Business

Oregon Pride in Business – ORPIB

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**From the Desk of
Representative Nelson**