

Submitter: Nat Brown

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2995

Oregon is home to over 80,000 Black citizens who not only face discriminatory practices in their daily lives, they are subject to the harsh realities of redlining, a racist and dehumanizing practice taken place over the course of decades which forces Black Oregonians into conditions which threaten their health, safety, and overall well-being. Neighborhoods in Portland, specifically, which home Black communities are over-policed, subject to far more industrial pollution, have fewer green spaces, fewer community services, are less accessible to the disabled and elderly, and even have fewer grocery stores. Reparations are needed in this state not only to rectify Oregon's deeply racist and oppressive history towards its Black citizens, but to allow them the opportunity to thrive and receive equal rights as their non-Black counterparts. As a resident of St John's I am strongly in favor of this measure and I support the establishment of a task force specifically directed towards the goal of providing Black Oregonians with monetary reparations.