

Jasia Mosley
February 24th, 2025
RE: Strong Support on HB 2995



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Chair Tran, Vice Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Lewis, and members of the committee,

My name is Jasia Mosley, and I'm the Policy Manager at Next Up Action Fund. Our organization has been around since 2002, and our mission is to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. We're here today in strong support of HB 2995.

We know that Black people, just like everyone else, deserve resourced, flourishing, and livable communities. Yet, Black communities have been a target of intentional interpersonal, institutional, and structural anti-Black racism and thus have been systematically denied access to equal opportunities for hundreds of years in the United States, including Oregon. In order to address this, there must be a thorough redress of the egregious and systemic anti-Black racism and discrimination that our state and nation have perpetrated against Black people. We know it is a necessity that Oregon establishes a task force for financial and non-financial reparations for Black Oregonians, and thus we are in strong support of HB 2995.

Racism is deeply rooted in the history of our state and has had long lasting impacts on Black communities today. Oregon was founded as a white-only state and [established many laws](#) that deliberately excluded Black people from living here, owning property, and being able to live without brutalization. [According to OPB](#), "If a Black person broke this law, the consequence was 39 lashes, every six months, until they left." Today, the racial wealth gap is vast due to these policies, wherein "households with a White, non-Hispanic householder had 10 times more wealth than those with a Black householder in 2021, [according to the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Income and Program Participation \(SIPP\)](#)." Public policies and institutional discrimination in Oregon has caused vast economic disparities in income and wealth, and as such, it is the duty of the state of Oregon to rectify these unacceptable wrongs.

This task force, HB 2995, would not only address the monetary forms of reparation but additionally would educate Oregonians on the importance of reparations and the racist history of Oregon. These two actions go hand-in-hand.

We urge you to support HB 2995 and begin to repair the long-lasting damages done onto Black Oregonians.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jasia Mosley
Policy Manager

Sources

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Times Wealthier than Those with a Black Householder in 2021." *Census.gov*, 23

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