

Submitter: Ron Hyde

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2995

As grievous as the acts of history were, Oregonians today are irreprehensible for actions taking place long before even being born, nor were those seeking compensation subjected to the issue at hand. To further complicate things, how do we now treat the Irish with indentured servitude in 1600's America? Do we dismiss them because they are white? How is the issue that in 1830, 3779 free black men owned over 12,000 slaves? Is it fair that descendants of slave owners now receive reparations because of the color of their skin? This bill is both morally and ethically wrong. If passed, does this give precedent for the various ethnic groups, such as the Polish, that were ostracized, forced into a substandard living by other Americans? If so, where are my reparations (I am of Polish decent), or is my skin the wrong color? I strongly oppose this bill as it will financially penalize the innocent, and reward the undeserving. We should be eliminating race based actions, not reviving them. Passage of such a bill would almost certainly reignite racism, erasing all of the gains made to date. I may go as far to say the intent of this bill is not the reparations themselves, but to act as a catalyst for racial division. This is wrong on so many levels it's almost incomprehensible.

Thank you for your time.

<https://jeffreykass.medium.com/black-people-owned-slaves-too-c9b568b6f756#:~:text=Some%20in%20Boston%20by%201724,I%20wrote%20about%20that%20before.>