

Submitter: Lynn Ramella

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2995

Dear Committee Members,

I urge you to support HB 2995 and establish a task force to study and investigate reparations for Oregonians of African-American descent. Given the history of this state's treatment of African Americans, one can look no further than the Oregonian black exclusion laws that excluded black settlers from Oregon's borders and those who remained were subject to be whipped, how could one reasonably argue against such reparations. I have read some of the oppositions comparing the plight of the African American to that of the Irish and the Polish. Not to undermine their own suffering and being a descendent of both of those races, I understand that they faced challenges when they willingly came to this country but to compare the treatment received by that of the African Americans is simply ignorant. The indecencies that the African American people have continuously endured since being ripped from their homes and dragged to this country is abhorrent and it is high time we take some real action to try and begin to right these wrongs.