

Submitter: Carrie Light
On Behalf Of: Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB 1098, which prohibits discrimination when selecting textbooks, instructional materials, program materials, or library books used in our public schools. I have over 20 years experience as an elementary classroom teacher and now teacher-librarian, and I am grateful for the access our students have to diverse ideas and viewpoints within Oregon's classrooms and libraries. These library and instructional materials are carefully selected by educators and teacher-librarians, who follow school district policies and procedures.

This bill also includes guidance and support to schools from the Oregon Department of Education to ensure compliance with the prohibition on discrimination as required by ORS 659.850. Oregon students of all ages deserve the freedom to read and to see themselves reflected in the literature around them. With this bill, parents will not be losing the rights they have to determine what their own children read. Most importantly, the diversity of ideas and perspectives will be available to all students. Please support SB 1098. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Carrie Light

March 2, 2025