

Submitter: Jane Littlefield

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

I appreciate State Librarian Wendy Cornelisen sharing data about and context regarding trends in book challenges in Oregon school libraries. Discrimination, as defined by Oregon State law, means "any act that unreasonably differentiates treatment, intended or unintended, or any act that is fair in form but discriminatory in operation, either of which is based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, marital status, age or disability." Oregon Intellectual Freedom Clearinghouse (OIFC) data shows that the trends in book challenges overwhelmingly negatively impact multiple protected classes. The impact of book challenges is certainly discriminatory, though I won't speculate on whether that is the intended impact of the remarkably-similar efforts across the nation. /s

SB1098 is needed to prohibit discrimination, be it intended or unintended. Show up and support your libraries! Thanks for considering.