

Submitter: Linda Campillo  
On Behalf Of: SB 1098  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

My name is Linda Campillo from Portland and I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 1098, which will prohibit discrimination based on the race, religion, ability, country of origin, sexuality, or gender of the individuals featured in the content of educational and library materials in K-12 public schools in Oregon.

In Oregon, we have seen countless efforts to ban books that feature LGBTQIA2S+, Black people, Indigenous people and other people of color. topics or individuals and restrict access for students to understand the positive contributions of individuals of marginalized identities who have contributed to our society. This bill creates a statewide standard ensuring freedom of information both to users of that information, as well as providers of that information, for example librarians and educators. It also ensures students have access to accurate and representative information about their histories, communities and selves.

As a school librarian for more than 18 years and a retired substitute teacher-librarian now, I know how important it is for our youth to see their stories reflected in the books they read, and to know that they are not alone and there is nothing wrong with them. I support this bill so that our students can have access to all histories and cultures, and so that I as an educator am not limited by political whims. Students need to gain broad knowledge and understanding of the world and its peoples in both history, culture and diversity in order to become better future voters of our nation.

Senate Bill 1098 protects student's right to see themselves represented in the books, materials and classrooms they learn from and to learn about diverse communities and people.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. Please vote YES to support and advance Senate Bill 1098. Sincerely, Linda Campillo