

Submitter:

Marci Cody

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1098

Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Weber, and members of the committee.

My name is Marci Cody from Pleasant Hill 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.

Because of the diversity in my extended family alone, I see the importance of supporting this bill on

many levels, to help all people feel included in our community and the impact people like each of

them has made on our community. This is especially critical at a time right now when so many

students feel alone and not connected and teen suicidal rates higher than ever before.

Senate Bill 1098 protects a 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 hear my story today. We urge you to vote YES to support and

advance Senate Bill 1098.

Thank you,

Marci Cody