

Submitter: Eric Stachon  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

March 4, 2025  
SB 1098 (Freedom to Read bill)  
Testimony of Eric Stachon

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

My name is Eric Stachon and I am writing in support of Senate Bill 1098. SB 1098 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.

It saddens me to think that, in 2022, we would even need to be addressing this. Censorship has no place in Oregon, but the unfortunate reality is that some Oregonians want to dictate for others what reading material is available in our public schools and libraries. Extremists promote book bans to erase and silence the voices, lived experiences, and histories of our most marginalized communities.

This is not the Oregon way. Book bans are not Oregon values.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my story today. We urge you to vote YES to support and advance SB 1098.

Sincerely,  
Eric Stachon