

March 7, 2025



House Committee on Education
Oregon State Capital
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: HB 3365, Support

Chair Alonso-Leon, Vice-Chair Helt and Neron; Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **HB 3365**, which will establish essential learning skills to include interdisciplinary approaches to sustainability and climate change curricula across all subjects by embedding them in academic standards. Numerous states today include climate change in their science education standards. In 2020, New Jersey became the first state to extend climate education to all its standards, from social studies to foreign languages.

Lane County owns and operates 15 transfer sites and a municipal landfill. We serve a population of 400,000. Services include our transfer and landfill operations, household hazardous waste collection, and education and resources for our community on waste reduction and recycling opportunities. Since 1997, Lane County has contracted with [BRING Recycling](#) to provide free K-12 in-classroom sustainability instruction for teachers and students. More than 60 classroom presentations, tours, and workshops are provided annually to engage students on broad sustainability topics like food waste prevention and the lifecycle impacts of the materials we consume.

In 2023, Lane County surveyed all Lane County educators and received nearly 500 responses. Teachers who took the survey and participated in focus groups represented a mix of grade levels and subjects taught. 49% of teachers report that students are engaged in sustainability topics, but sustainability education content needs to be standards-aligned and easy to access. Teachers also reported that principals and district administrators must be in support to incorporate sustainability education topics.

To fill this gap, Lane County developed www.wastewiselane.org. The website offers education, tours, and resources teachers can use in the classroom. All curriculum is developed with local K-12 partners, and academic content standards are aligned to represent life science, physical science, earth and space science, engineering, technology, and society. By making curricula easy to download and searchable by content and academic content standard, we hope to inspire more teachers to embed sustainability curricula into their day.

Let's continue looking for ways to revise academic content to reflect the current climate impacts of today and our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angie R. Marzano".

Angie R. Marzano
Waste Reduction Program Supervisor