

March 10, 2025

My name is Brinda Narayan-Wold. I am a middle school counselor in Eugene School District 4j. I write in strong support for HB 3365.

As a school counselor, I often have students in my office suffering from anxiety and other mental stressors that interfere with their abilities to fully learn in the classrooms.

Many of such students explain to me that their anxiety in part is due to climate change. They are very very worried, angry and feel utterly helpless about the state of the planet, the state of the water supply, of pollution, fires, ash in the air, the plight of animals going extinct and of floods and droughts.

We educators clearly know that when students understand the science and the methods of climate destruction and recovery in the age-appropriate ways that HB 3365 outlines, students can begin to understand their agency in addressing the challenges and opportunities of climate change.

HB 3365 offers Oregonians a clear pathway to expand and integrate climate change instruction across all K-12 core subject areas (language arts, sciences, mathematics, social studies, health, physical education and the arts).

The beauty of HB 3365 is that it integrates climate literacy into all core subject areas. This allows students to explore the social and economic impacts, communication and analysis, artistic expression, data and statistics, innovation and career exploration, community resilience and opportunity all in the context of Oregon's changing climate.

HB 3365 would allow Oregon's publicly educated student to feel less anxious and to talk out loud in age-appropriate and in scientific terms about what climate change is and what can be done about it.

HB 3365 would also put Oregon in the forefront of the nation on how a state legislature can allow science-based climate education to be taught in each and every one of Oregon's public schools.

I enthusiastically support the passage of HB 3365. Please connect with me should you have any questions or comments for me. Thank you.