

Submitter: Milla Vogelezang-Liu  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3365

Dear Chair Neron and members of the House of Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 3365. My name is Milla Vogelezang-Liu and I am a first-year Brown University student studying chemical engineering and geochemistry. I graduated from South Eugene High School last year.

My first tangible experience with climate change was when I was 14 years old during the 2020 wildfire season. While I had heard about climate change before, I had never properly learned about it in school. So, when the skies turned orange and started raining ash while my friend's house burned to the ground, I was scared and unprepared. I didn't understand why this was happening.

After these devastating events, I was forced to learn about climate change, and how profoundly our communities are affected. Since then, I have kept advocating for climate education. Because as Oregonians, we still face these disasters year after year, yet we are still not learning about them in our schools, and it shows.

I remember when I set up an environmental trivia game at my high school's activity fair to try to draw students to my climate club. I was shocked by how little my peers knew about climate change. Most students couldn't explain the greenhouse effect, and nearly half were unaware of climate change's consequences despite having lived them. This was at South Eugene High School, one of the top ten high schools in Oregon. I can't imagine how lacking education across the rest of the state must be.

Furthermore, tackling the climate crisis is being increasingly prioritized, driving job growth and new opportunities. Learning about climate change exposes students to career paths in renewables, agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, construction, transportation, and much more, while also building their belief that they can make a positive change in the world.

As a chemical engineering student at an Ivy League school who one day hopes to create climate solutions, I implore you to help Oregon students prepare for their futures, and understand the climate events they are living through, unlike how I experienced them when I was 14. Who knows, maybe they'll even discover a passion for a climate focused career like I did.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of HB 3365, and in doing so, to create a lasting legacy of support for an education system that is empowering, just, and resilient for

all Oregonians.  
Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,  
Milla Vogelezang-Liu,  
Eugene, OR  
Student at Brown University