



BRING

reduce | reuse | recycle | rethink

BRINGrecycling.org

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House Committee on Education
Oregon State Capitol
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. This important legislation directs the State Board of Education to integrate an interdisciplinary approach to sustainability and climate change instruction across all subjects for which academic content standards are established. By requiring climate change education to be included in future academic content reviews and revisions, this bill ensures that Oregon's students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to understand and address the environmental challenges of today and the future.

BRING has been a trusted leader in sustainability education for over 30 years, providing educational programs that empower students to think critically about consumption, adopt sustainable practices, and become champions of waste prevention in their homes and schools. Since the beginning of this school year, BRING's Waste Prevention Education Coordinator has taught 26 classroom lessons and led 12 tours of Lane County's waste management facilities, engaging 705 students across 10 districts. Our programs are designed to align with academic content standards and provide students with meaningful, hands-on learning experiences that inspire action and foster environmental stewardship.

Our K-12 waste prevention education program offers classroom presentations tailored to different age groups:

- Grades K-2: Worms: Nature's Recyclers introduces young learners to the essential role decomposers play in composting.
- Grades 3-8: Trace the Trash and The Resourceful 'R's teach students about product lifecycles, sustainable choices, and practical ways to reduce waste.
- Grades 9-12: In addition to Trace the Trash and The Resourceful 'R's, high school students explore topics like food waste prevention through From Plate to Planet and learn about green job opportunities in Design for Circularity.

Our waste facility field trips provide an immersive learning experience where students see waste systems in action at the Glenwood Transfer Station, Short Mountain Landfill, and BRING's Planet Improvement Center. These free tours offer valuable insights into waste reduction, recycling, and sustainable consumption.

We believe that embedding sustainability education into Oregon's academic standards is a crucial step in preparing students for the environmental challenges of the future. By fostering critical thinking and empowering young people to take action, we can build a more sustainable and resilient community.

We urge your support for HB 3365 and thank you for considering this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Carlson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sonya" being more prominent than the last name "Carlson".

Sonya Carlson (she/hers)
Executive Director
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