

Submitter: Breana Green
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3365

Dear Chair Neron and members of the House Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 3365. My name is Breana Green, and I am both an elementary educator and the parent of an elementary student in Eugene, Oregon.

Climate change is a pressing concern for me and many others. It brings about extreme weather events like heatwaves, storms, and floods that disrupt daily life. Rising temperatures also degrade air quality, making it harder to breathe and posing significant health risks. Additionally, the shifting climate affects agriculture and food security, leading to higher prices and reduced access to essential resources. As the impacts of climate change intensify, I also face mounting financial stress due to the need for repairs and mitigation efforts, which further limit opportunities for growth and well-being.

In my previous work with wildfire survivors in Southern Oregon, I saw firsthand how wildfires—exacerbated by climate change—devastated communities. Unfortunately, I never had the chance to learn about climate change in school until I reached college, and I hope that my child and future students won't face the same situation.

It is critical that students learn about climate change because it is an undeniable part of their lives. By addressing climate change across subjects, not just science, we can empower students to understand the problem and generate solutions to reduce our collective impact on the environment. This issue is not political; it is an urgent reality that our students must be prepared to navigate.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of HB 3365—Comprehensive Climate Change Education in Oregon schools. Your support of this bill will help position Oregon as a leader in providing our students with the knowledge and tools they need to address the climate crisis.

Thank you for your consideration and support of HB 3365!

Sincerely,
Breana Green