

LISA FRAGALA STATE REPRESENTATIVE HOUSE DISTRICT 8 FROM THE WILLAMETTE RIVER TO SPENCER BUTTE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dear Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and Members of the Committee

For the record, my name is Lisa Fragala and I serve as the State Representative for House District 8. I am here in strong support of House Bill 3365, which will add climate science education goals and objectives to the Oregon Department of Education's regular updates of academic content standards.

I'm excited to champion this issue together with a statewide coalition of students and educators who are passionate about ensuring that Oregon's students have access to education on climate science. Students are asking for this opportunity because they recognize it is critical to prepare for a future in which their world is resilient in the face of changing climate. Let's ensure we give them access to an education that provides them with the tools and information they need.

Today, you will hear from students about why this issue is important to them and you will also hear from a dedicated group of educators who are working to make this a reality but first I want to talk about the focus of HB 3365.

The approach that this bill takes for integrating climate science goals and objectives utilizes a process that is already in place for regularly updating Oregon's content standards. This process is implemented by the Oregon Department of Education and reviews each specific subject area on a seven-year cycle. Oregon educators volunteer their time to help in this review process to ensure content areas reflect up to date and appropriate goals. Updates and revisions are recommended to the Oregon Board of Education for review and approval. This bill does not require all curriculum be updated at once and it is not a mandated curriculum that districts need to adopt or teach. It simply allows the integration of climate and sustainability standards, as appropriate for each grade level and subject area, as part of Oregon's normal content standard adoption process.

Through the process of gathering feedback for this bill, we heard that the bill as drafted may have been too specific in what the content standards should include. We believe that the -2, which is posted on OLIS will be a better approach to ensuring that content standards include climate education in a manner that is integrated, multidisciplinary, and developmentally appropriate.

I also want to highlight that this bill has a strong coalition of support including, the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Our Future: Partners for a Sustainable Schools, OEA, the NAACP, the Oregon Pediatric Society, and many others. I urge you to support House Bill 3365. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Loa M. Fragala

Representative Lisa Fragala House District 8

