

To: House Committee on Education

From: Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)

Re: IN SUPPORT OF HB 3365

Date: March 14, 2025

Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Dobson, Vice-Chair McIntire, and Members of the House Committee on Education:

The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) **supports HB 3365 and urges you to pass this important legislation.** COIN is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote progressive causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

For many of our members, protecting Oregon's environment, including addressing climate change, is a top priority. Thus, we support a K-12 curriculum that includes interdisciplinary education on climate change and sustainability. At a time when so many adults politicize or even deny the existence of human-caused climate change (as evidenced by the multiple testimonies submitted in opposition to this bill) it's critical that we ensure our young people get the education they will need for their future.

According to a recent survey in the scientific journal, The Lancet (Nov 2024), more than 50% of youth in the United States are very or extremely worried about climate change. One in three young people reported that climate change affects their daily lives! This study is by no means an outlier. Understanding climate change, how we can adapt to it, mitigate its impacts, and reverse it is no longer just the duty of science teachers. It NEEDS to be incorporated across the curriculum and across grade levels to help our young people cope with the myriad ways climate change is impacting and will continue to impact their lives for the foreseeable future. Such education will also help end a generation of denial that has led us to this precarious point in time.

Please vote YES on HB 3365.

Respectfully,

Deborah Ferrer, The Dalles on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) www.coinoregon.org