

Submitter: skyler williams
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3365
TO: House Committee On Education
RE: Support of HB 3365
DATE: March 12, 2025.

Dear Chair Neron and members of the House Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 3365. My name is Skyler Williams, a college student at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, currently studying Environmental Science. I am passionate about climate action, helping the environment, and I love spending time outdoors. I am writing to strongly support the passing of House Bill 3365, a bill that intends to introduce the teaching of climate change across all K-12 core subject areas (language arts, sciences, mathematics, social studies, health, physical education and the arts.)

We know that human impacts on the environment are only getting increasingly large and detrimental as time goes on. Changes must be made to sustain our environment and the life we know. Thinking about the future of our actions is of the utmost importance. Integrating climate change curriculum early on will help to raise awareness in the generations to come. The sooner kids are taught about the issue, the sooner they will realize it is necessary to do your part to fix the problem.

Although it can be a daunting subject due to the extent of the problem, teaching children about climate change and environmental awareness does not have to be scary. With young students, it would be best to teach them all the positive actions they can take to help the world. Starting small with things like turning off the lights when you leave your room, turning off the sink while brushing your teeth, giving out toys to younger kids rather than throwing them away, etc. Positive climate action is a subject that nobody has to be scared of.

Any bit of mindfulness of their environmental impact that can be planted into children from a young age will help to shape a more sustainable future for Oregonians, and people everywhere. Why wait when we can start now? So, I strongly urge you to vote in favor of HB 3365- Comprehensive Climate Change Education in Oregon schools.

Thank you for your support of HB 3365! It is time for Oregon to take leadership in becoming the second state to legislate comprehensive climate education.

Sincerely,

Skyler Williams.