

Submitter: Bruce Wilson
On Behalf Of: Access Academy
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

While Oregon's public schools do need tax payer funding, I am opposed to the bill in question for the following: O.D.E. has adopted curriculum that proven to be divisive and harmful; the curriculum that is influenced by and or adjacent to and or derived from socialistic and communistic ideas, motives, theories, and or intentions (ie. critical race theory, emotional social learning, diversity equity inclusion, queer theory, gender affirming care, to name a few) has been integrated into curriculum; Oregonians without means for avoiding harmful and divisive curriculum have no option but to participate in an ideological curricular foundation--upon which the current curriculum is built--that seeks to perpetuate racism and hatred; Oregonians have no opt-out choice and no opt-in choice that could otherwise allow Oregonians to avoid the current curriculum; O.D.E. is not seeking a solution of a neutral foundation upon which to build a more welcoming, more inclusive, less racist, less divisive, less harmful curriculum; Oregonians who have tried to get O.D.E. to mend this divide have been met with vitriol and hate from the top down; the O.D.E. is failing special needs students; the O.D.E. is failing in its position on food and nutrition programs for students; the O.D.E, politicians, and administrators are not making substantial efforts nor changes that reflect the broad and various cultures found throughout Oregonian; various Oregon school boards and administrators routinely encourage and or support and or fund the dissemination of information and propaganda that clearly supports one particular ideology, and has yet to show similar or the same for those of an opposing ideology. For these reasons and others not specified here, I cannot in good conscience support bills or initiative petitions without the O.D.E. making substantial changes towards a neutral curricular foundation and that that foundation would be meaningfully and overtly reflected by the administration and staff in all Oregon public school classrooms. Respectfully, Bruce Wilson