

Submitter:

Marcell Frazier

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3807

Hello Lawmakers.

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 3807.

Since well before the Civil Rights era, sports have served as place where integration was far ahead of society. 1947 was the official date that Major League Baseball integrated with Jackie Robison. This was nearly two decades before the Civil Rights Act was signed into law by President Lyndon. B Johnson. The sports playing fields have always been the great equalizer in American society. Let us not forget what values our youth learn from sports: team work, persistence, learning how to lead, how to follow, how to fail gracefully, win with character, and work with other youth from different walks of life. There are many more benefits of youth sports, and I am sure each lawmaker has their own unique experience with a childhood sport you played.

As society moves to a place of racial intolerance, hate speech, and polarization, we MUST double down on our support of a safe and respectful space for our youth to occupy. Sports should serve as a place where students can escape the hate, racial intolerance, and polarization of society. It should not be a place where vulgarity, hate, and racism thrives. It is quite shameful that Oregon, a state who champions it's self on it's progressive values, has allowed such behaviors to go unchecked for so long. It is time we correct this egregious era. It is time we put in place the necessary protections, reporting metrics, and consequences when fans and athletes don't behave. This bill will do exactly that.

Please sign this bill.

Thank you,

-MF