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On Behalf Of:	AAUW
Committee:	House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1098

It seems like book bans are happening everywhere around the country and here in Oregon. And the books under attack in Oregon are often by or about people of color, women, and LGBTQ+ people which is a strategy of the right to go back to my childhood when we had few of those voices available. I loved going to the library and reading books as a child and teenager and I wish I would have that diversity of voices and the information that gives a fuller picture of our history and our communities.

When books and materials are banned or censored it erases the history and lived experiences of marginalized groups, leading to continuing or even increasing intolerance and economic hardship for those targeted as well as giving all of our students a very limited understanding of our world and our history.

We need an Oregon law that explicitly prohibits the censorship of materials based on the “protected class” identities involved in the material’s content or creation. We need SB1098 to legally define what shall NOT be used as a screening criteria. Please vote for this legislation. Thank you.