

5/7/2025 900 Court St. NE, H-484 Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator,

On behalf of <u>EARTHDAY.ORG</u> (EDO), I am writing to express support for <u>House Bill 3365</u> which seeks to amend <u>ORS 329.045</u>, an Oregon public law on Common Curriculum Goals, by expanding and integrating climate resilience instruction across all K-12 core subject areas (language arts, sciences, mathematics, social studies, health, physical education and the arts). This multidisciplinary approach helps students make connections between the science of climate change and the ways in which it impacts all facets of life to foster community-based solutions. HB 3365 articulates pathways for integrating climate literacy into academic content standards that are already reviewed and revised regularly by the State Board of Education and the Oregon Department of Education - with place-based, age-appropriate, solution-oriented guidelines developed within Oregon and nationally.

At EDO, we believe that education is one of the most powerful tools we have to build a more sustainable and just future. Comprehensive climate change education aligns directly with our core mission to empower people through climate literacy and to foster an informed, civically engaged public. For young Oregonians, learning about climate change is not just a matter of science—it's about understanding their world, their communities, and their future. By embedding climate education across multiple subjects and viewpoints, students are equipped to see the connections between climate change and the economy, public health, agriculture, and environmental justice—particularly as these issues uniquely impact Oregon's forests, coastlines, and rural and tribal communities. Teaching interdependence with nature throughout a student's academic journey fosters not only scientific understanding but also empathy, resilience, and civic responsibility. House Bill 3365 would also ensure that students have access to green Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways, preparing them for the growing number of jobs in clean energy, conservation, sustainable agriculture, and other climate-forward industries. These pathways are critical to ensuring that Oregon's students are not only prepared to face the challenges of the climate crisis but are also positioned to thrive in and help lead a greener economy.

HB 3365 is an investment in Oregon's future. EDO strongly supports HB 3365, which aligns with <u>NOAA's Climate Literacy Guide</u> to provide Oregon's youth with innovative, solution-focused learning. It prepares students not only to understand climate science but also to engage in civic and economic solutions that will sustain our state's industries and ecosystems for generations to come. We urge you to support this bill and uphold Oregon's commitment to education, resilience, and responsible stewardship.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Oregon's future. We appreciate your consideration and look forward to seeing HB 3365 advance through the legislative process. Sincerely,

Dennis Nolasco Education Coordinator





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