

Dear Chair Frederick, Vice Chair Weber and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

On behalf of OSTA and Science Teachers across the state, we are writing to express support for House Bill 3365 which seeks to amend ORS 329.045, 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.

As Science Educators across the state, we know firsthand that climate education must be comprehensive, and learning should not happen in silos. Climate literacy reaches far beyond the realm of science—it intersects with data reasoning, media and journalism, persuasive writing, indigenous ways of knowing, statistics, policy and law, and more. Our students deserve an integrated, multidisciplinary education that reflects the real-world complexity of climate change and supports them in becoming informed, solution-oriented citizens.

Science education leaders, *including many of us* involved in the Oregon Science Teachers Association (OSTA), collaborated directly with the Oregon Department of Education to embed climate-related language into the 2022 Oregon Science Standards. This critical work was done with no *additional* funding or support—reflecting the deep dedication of our science education community. We continue to support teachers through aligned, high-quality professional development, provided at no additional cost to school districts through trusted educational partners including Oregon STEM Hubs, Regional Education Networks (RENs), Watershed Councils, Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, and post-secondary partners like Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (ONREP), Teacher Summer Institutes, and professional conferences.

HB 3365 would ensure the protection of the climate standards already established in Science, Social Science, and Health. Just as importantly, it would provide a pathway for other subject-area specialists and the State Board of Education to incorporate climate literacy into their disciplines, where appropriate. This is a pivotal opportunity to secure and amplify what already exists in Oregon's Science Standards while promoting deeper, broader engagement across disciplines.



HB 3365 is an investment in Oregon's future. OSTA strongly supports HB 3365, which aligns with NOAA's Climate Literacy Guide 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,

Oregon Science Teacher Association (OSTA), Board of Directors