Oregon
John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

Oregon Advocacy Commissions Office
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House Rules Committee
Testimony in support of HB 2328
April 17, 2013, 3pm., Hearing Room 50

Chair Garrett, Vice Chairs Hicks and Hoyle, and Representatives Barnhart, Berger, Dembrow, Holvey, Jenson and Kennemer,

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions are submitting testimony in support of HB 2328 which adds statutory language to the Oregon Advocacy Commissions, allowing them to meet jointly at least once annually and conduct business of mutual interest. We represent the:

- Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs
- Commission on Black Affairs
- Commission on Hispanic Affairs
- Commission for Women

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions work in their individual communities and have individual viewpoints and actions that they regularly share with legislators, the Governor, and other state leaders and policy makers. They also work collaboratively on a number of strategic issues that they have in common, including disparities and gaps in healthcare and health outcomes, community safety and policing, education, affordable housing, and other fundamental supports for communities of color and women in Oregon. The Commissions regularly work together to craft a joint message and take collaborative action on these issues.

We believe that the ability to meet jointly and conduct action at least annually in the conduct of our statutory missions will strengthen he work of the Commissions while maintaining their individual voices and commitment to the communities they serve.

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
Stephen Ying, Chair
Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Jackie Dingfelder
Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs
Isaac E. Dixon, Chair
James Morris, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Rod Monroe
Rep. Lew Frederick

OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs
Andrea Cano, Chair
Gilbert P. Carrasco, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Chip Shields
Rep. Chris Harker

OR Commission for Women
Stephanie Vardavas, Chair
Jeanne Burch, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Monnes Anderson
Rep. Betty Komp

Staff
Lucy Baker, Administrator
Nancy Kramer, Executive Assistant

The Oregon Advocacy Commissions urge the Committee members to positively consider HB 2328 and support it with your vote.

Sincerely,

Stephen Ying, Chair, OCAPIA

Isaac Dixon, Chair, OCBA

Andrea Cano, Chair, OCHA

Stephanie Vardavas, Chair, OCFW