

From the Offices of Representative Fragala, Representative Finger McDonald

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Oregon House Passes Bill To Improve Education on Climate Change

HB 3365 adds climate and sustainability to update of academic content standards.

SALEM, Ore. - Today, the Oregon House voted in favor of incorporating climate and sustainability in classroom education standards, promoting an informed and empowered generation of students. The law would integrate climate science goals and objectives through the regular seven year update of academic content standards in Oregon, ensuring the Board of Education includes sufficient climate and sustainability standards as appropriate for each grade level and subject during the next content update.

Rep. Lisa Fragala (D-Eugene) is a chief sponsor of the bill, and said, "Students are asking for this opportunity because they recognize it is critical to prepare for a future in which their world is resilient in the face of changing climate. Let's ensure we give them access to an education that provides them with the tools and information they need."

Students, educators, and activists have spoken out in support of this bill, urging accessible information on the impacts of climate change and advocating for youth mental health, including the Oregon League of Conservation Voters, Our Future: Partners for Sustainable Schools, OEA, the NAACP, the Oregon Pediatric Society, and students from high schools across Oregon.

"Climate change is here. It's real. It's undeniable. And it's hurting people. We must equip the next generation with the knowledge and skills to do better than we did. We need deep investment in climate education. We need the next generation to save the planet," said **Rep. Finger McDonald** (**D-Corvallis**), a chief sponsor of the bill.

HB 3365 now moves to the Oregon State Senate.