

Looking for an easy way to support your fellow librarians and communities that will take just a few minutes of your time?

There are two OLA bills that have been scheduled for public hearings and work sessions in the Oregon Legislature on March 30th at 3pm in the Senate Education Committee. We hope you will submit a letter or two in support of the bills before the hearing. Letters of support can make a big difference in the decision-making process.

School Media Program Standards:

[SB 1075](#) - Adds requirements to ODE regarding school media program standards, that will require the agency to hire a full-time staff position dedicated to school library programs to execute the work and push for strong school library programs inside the agency.

Broadband Infrastructure:

[SB 885](#) – Would provide \$750,000 to the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund for matching federal broadband infrastructure grants and funding for a part-time E-Rate consultant to help public libraries apply for E-Rate funds, contracted out at the State Library of Oregon.

We are looking for letters of support for these bills. Please take the time to write a letter on one or both bills using the attached template and adding in your own take. Legislators appreciate hearing personalized stories. Please feel free to add in anecdotal evidence to help make our case for needed funding for broadband and to support school libraries.

Submit your testimony [here](#)! Pick March 30th from the drop down then click the bill you wish to weigh in on (SB 885 or SB 1075), then fill out the form and upload your letter then hit submit.

Need help? Here is [a link that helps explain how to submit your testimony on OLIS and has a video example](#). If you still need help, contact tess@miliocapitolconsulting.com.

Template for Letter:

March 30, 2023

Senate Committee on Education
900 Court St NE, HR B
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to support SB 885/1075.

(Add in why you think it is important...

Any personal stories/experiences to share to illustrate your point?

1-4 paragraphs is ideal.)

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to pass SB 1075/885.

Sincerely,

(add name and title)