



Oregon students led the passage of a bill creating ethnic studies in the state's K-12 schools. (APANO photo)

# Ethnic Studies Bill Passes

Measure meant to make schools more inclusive

BY ERIC TEGETHOFF

Students and racial-justice groups in the state are among those applauding a bill now on the governor's desk that should make Oregon schools feel more inclusive for students of color.

Under House Bill 2845, the Oregon Department of Education will adopt ethnic studies standards in social studies classes for K-12 schools statewide.

Zahir Janmohamed, the policy director of the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, one of the groups that backed the bill, says Oregon students are the ones who pushed for it.

"It didn't come about from aca-

demics, it didn't come about from sort of policy groups, it came about from youth," he says. "So, this is really their victory today."

California is the only other state to establish ethnic studies standards. The new standards will focus on the histories of communities of color, as well as Jewish and LGBTQ communities, and gender groups.

Lamar Wise, the legislative director of the Oregon Student Association says students of color in Oregon have been concerned for a long time about the lack of representation in textbooks and the curriculum.

Wise says the problem has even contributed to higher absenteeism. However, he says the recent rise in hate crimes, such as a racially-motivated stabbing on a Portland train, heightened the urgency of this bill.

"The frustration from students has come to a point where it's climaxed, and there's been an upswell of students and organizations who wanted to address it," he explains. "And I think legislators also felt that same way, which is why they passed the bill."

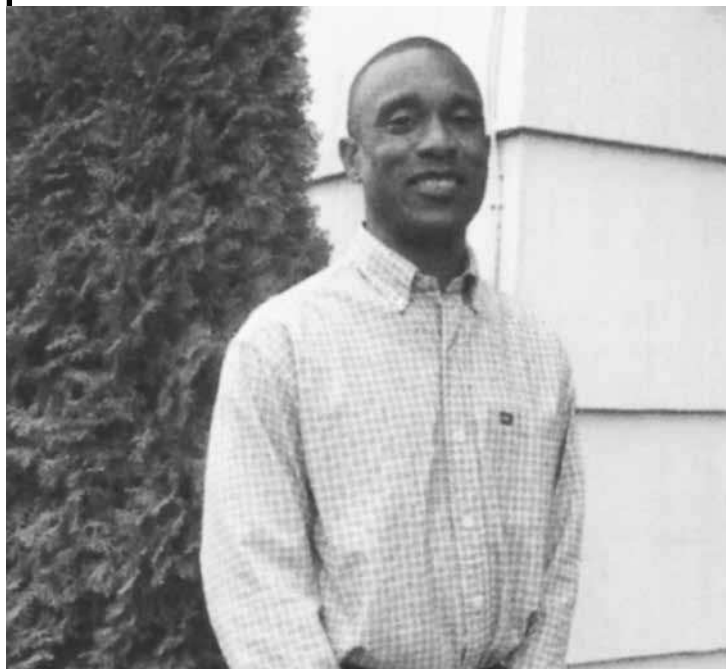
After Gov. Kate Brown signs the bill, Wise says his group and others will be watching as the Oregon Department of Education develops rules and assembles an advisory committee. For now, he commends the students' grassroots movement that helped get this bill passed.

"There was a lot of planning that went into it, and students did a great job in making sure that they were leading the effort and that their stories were at the forefront," Wise adds.

Eric Tegethoff is a reporter for Oregon News Service.

## TERENCE KELLER A full Service Realtor

- List & Sell your House
- Find your the Best Loan
- Find your New Home
- Help with Pre-Sale Prep
- Help you Invest
- Hold Open House to sell your home



Portland is my Town

Call Terence Keller  
503 839-6126

Liberty Group Realtors Inc.

terencekellersr@gmail.com • Oregon License 200306037



### Sweet Street Food Cart

Located at 15th and Alberta  
call 503-995-6150 to place order

Mon. - Fri., 11:00am - 7:00pm • Sat. - Sun., 11:00am - 5:00pm

Wednesday Special: 3 Wings \$2.00

Friday Special: Rib Sandwich, Beef or Pork, \$4.00

Spring Special



5010 NE 9th Ave  
Portland, Or 97211  
Phone: 503 284-2989

We specialize in a variety of cuts for men and women, hot towel razor shaves, braiding, hair extension, Shampoo, blow dryer and Platinum fade.

Call Today or Walk in !!!

IERNVault  
LEGAL SERVICES

EFREM LAWRENCE, ESQ.  
Attorney at Law

efrem@iernvault.com

503-293-3550

Child Support & Custody

Motor Vehicle Accidents

