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PHOTO COURTESY OF ACLU OF OREGON
"Justice is blind" statue, as part of "They Report to You" campaign.

What Does a DA Really Do?

A new campaign of the ACLU of Oregon asks for more voter participation in electing prosecutors

By *Melanie Sevckenko*
Of *The Skanner News*

The ACLU of Oregon launched a campaign on Sunday aimed at upping voter participation next spring from Oregonians across the state.

The campaign focuses on district attorneys, the most powerful elected officials in the criminal justice system. And with 36 district attorneys (one per county), the civil rights organization wants to encourage more Oregonians to vote in those races.

"They Report to You" has been launched as a multi-year and multi-faceted campaign focused on district attorney accountability and criminal justice

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AP PHOTO/MARK HUMPHREY
People stand for the Pledge of Allegiance during a meeting of the standing committee on rules at the Republican National Committee summer meeting, Aug. 24 in Nashville.

RNC Votes to Condemn White Supremacy

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One of the Oldest HBCUs in the US Could Close

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WE ARE NOT GOING BACK



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Attorney, political advocate and CNN commentator Angela Rye was one of the keynote speakers at the Commemoration of the 54th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Justice "We Are Not Going Back" Aug. 28 at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park on Martin Luther King Jr. Way South in Seattle. Rye spoke about how after more than 50 years, the same goals of jobs and freedom Martin Luther King Jr. had spoken about during the March on Washington in 1963 are still unattained. She emphasized the continued need to organize to fight for justice. Other featured speakers included the Reverend Dr. Samuel B. McKinney, former NBA Head Coach Lenny Wilkens, Mayor Ed Murray, King County Executive Dow Constantine, King County Council member Larry Gossett and Seattle/King County NAACP President Gerald Hankerson and many other local religious and civil rights leaders.

Schools to Adopt K-12 Ethnic Studies Program

Bill requires advisory committee to convene by next summer

By *Christen McCurdy*
Of *The Skanner News*

Earlier this summer, Oregon passed legislation making it the first state in the country to require schools to adopt an ethnic studies curriculum.

HB 2845, which was signed into law June 29 and which was backed by a coalition of racial justice advocacy groups, will require the state to adopt a K-12 ethnic studies curriculum for students throughout the state — to be implement-

ed by 2021. In addition to highlighting the history of racial and ethnic minorities, the curriculum would also focus on the histories and contributions of social minorities such as sexual and religious minorities and people with disabilities.

The bill mandates that the state create an advisory committee — to consist of representatives from the Commission on Black Affairs, the Commission on Indian Services, the Commission on Asian and

Pacific Islander Affairs, the Oregon Disabilities Commission and the Commission for Woman. The advisory committee will also include a representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, a K-12 educator and a university professor on ethnic studies. The committee will also include two current public school students in grade 7 through 12.

The bill requires the advisory group to identify where current statewide

social studies standards fail to recognize the histories of ethnic and social minorities, to develop ethnic studies standards for adoption into existing statewide social studies standards — and to select materials, resources, sample curricula and skills training programs for school districts and teachers.

HB 2845 was sponsored by Rep. Diego Hernandez (D-Portland) and legislative hearings included sev-

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Summer Internship Program for Youth Reaches Milestone

SummerWorks is serving the highest number of youths since its 2009 launch

By *Melanie Sevckenko*
Of *The Skanner News*

SummerWorks applauded some 30 interns it helped employ this summer during a special luncheon at Tamale Boy in North Portland last week.

David Douglas High School student Guwo Duku participated in an internship at Dress for Success. The organization, which provides donat-

ed professional attire for women, is one of the program's 550 worksites across private sector companies, nonprofits, city bureaus and county departments.

Duku told *The Skanner* that she's looking to pursue a career in the medical field, but has always

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PHOTO BY MOTUYA NAKAMURA

Commissioner Loretta Smith with SummerWorks interns at Tamale Boy luncheon, Aug. 23, 2017.