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February 4, 2021

To: [Senate Committee On Education](#)
Chair, Senator Michael Dembrow
Vice-Chair, Senator Chuck Thomsen
Members of the Committee

Re: [SB 52](#)– Investing in the Success of Our LGBTQ2SIA+ Students, **Support**

Unitarian Universalists (UU) Principles guide our selection of Oregon legislative bills to support. We support [SB 52](#) based on our 1st, 2nd, and 6th Principles:

- [1st Principle](#): *The inherent worth and dignity of every person;*
- [2nd Principle](#): *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;*
- [3rd Principle](#): *Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;*
- [4th Principle](#): *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;*
- [5th Principle](#): *The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;*
- [6th Principle](#): *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;*
- [7th Principle](#): *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

Unitarian Universalism has made a commitment to opening its doors to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Welcoming congregations ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, asexual, two-spirit, genderqueer, non-binary, and all feel fully welcomed, centered, and embraced in our Unitarian Universalist congregations.

We believe that many LGBTQ2SIA+ youth, adults and the parents that support them find a home within our UU congregations and fellowships. Youth in our congregations and the regional UU youth group tell us that their experience within the general public and in schools has led to thoughts of suicide and self-harm. We appreciate the informative [LGBTQ2SIA+ Student Success Plan](#) developed by the ODE Advisory Group and support this being put in statute beginning with [SB 52](#).

Thank you for supporting LGBTQ2SIA+ youth and the opportunity to testify on this bill.

OOUVfJ Board
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