

29 March 2021

To: House Committee on Housing

Re: House Bill 2007

Dear Chair Representative Fahey, Vice-Chairs Representatives Campos and Morgan, and members of the Committee:

While there are some merits to HB 2007 I am opposed to it as introduced for the reasons listed below, but mostly because there are more pressing issues facing the state for the Committee to spend its time on.

SB 2007 Requires Real Estate Commissioner to add implicit bias component to real estate licensing exam and continuing education credits.... Requires Appraiser Certification and Licensure Board to add implicit bias component to education requirements for appraiser certification or licensure.... Establishes Joint Task Force on Addressing Racial Disparities in Home Ownership.

The above issues are already well covered by a myriad of laws, rules and regulations, e.g.,

- The United States Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries [discrimination at work, in housing, public places, discrimination based on race, color, national origin, disability, gender orientation/identity and equal pay].
- ORS Chapter 659A [Unlawful discrimination in Employment, Public Accomodations, Real Property Transactions, Administrative & Civil Enforcement].

I urge the Committee to table it promptly. Much of this bill is merely reinventing the wheel.

Sincerely,



Richard Wisner