

Subject: Please ban caste discrimination

Date: Friday, February 17, 2023 at 6:15:11 PM Pacific Standard Time

From: Tami Lentz <tami.lentz@gmail.com>

To: LEG_CouncilMembers <council@seattle.gov>

CC: seattleindians@gmail.com <seattleindians@gmail.com>

CAUTION: External Email

Dear Council,

I write to you to urge you to vote YES to ban CASTE based discrimination that Councilmember Kshama Sawant's office has brought forward.

A ban on caste discrimination will protect oppressed-caste people, their family, and their children from the gross injustices they endure on a daily basis, here in the US.

Martin Luther King Jr. was an ally to Dalit communities and said "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Our society cannot say that we support the ideals of Dr. King and turn a blind eye to the struggles of people of Dalit descent and/or of other low-caste communities. I thus URGE you to vote YES to ban CASTE-based discrimination.

As the Migrant Graduation Specialist in my school district, I support "low caste" peoples from Latin America on a daily basis and know firsthand the injustices they face versus people who grew up with privilege.

Likewise, I support justice for all people from around the world, regardless of caste or social class. The United States must be a beacon of equality for all peoples, and we must seek to upend unjust systems that take root in our communities.

Let's let Seattle lead the way towards ending caste discrimination in our country and be the standard-bearer for justice in our nation.

Thank you,

Tami Lentz

Migrant Graduation Specialist,
Snohomish School District