

Hello,

I am writing in support of the bill to promote education that helps bring awareness to systemic racism and how to put an end to it. Over the last 4 years we have been made all to aware of the fact that racism still exists on a large scale in this country. I live in a county where two of our board members refused to acknowledge that systemic racism even exists therefore the need to teach about it is unnecessary. I will not go into detail about the recorded racist statements these two board members have made and the irony of the fact that they then claim racism doesn't exist.

Hello,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 683, which would require schools to provide instruction on the racist history of this country and state. I live in a county where two school board members refuse to acknowledge that systemic racism even exists; consequently, they see no need to address it in the classroom. I will not go into detail about the recorded racist statements both of these board members have said and the irony of them denying racism exists. Right in my own county, I am battling people who make decisions

about our children's education who aren't even aware of their racist behavior.

These last four years have been an eyeopener for many of us who thought that we had actually made headway in putting an end to racism and intolerance. Sadly, we have a long ways to go. The only way to end racism is to bring it into the light and discuss it. We need to teach how to recognize and respond to hateful, racist words and actions.

I have a very personal stake in this. My son-in-law is Jamaican and my grandson is half Jamaican. The thought of them, or anyone, being judged merely on the basis of the color of their skin, or their religious beliefs, or their sexual preference, or any other difference is terrifying. We all deserve to be treated equally and with respect. It is our obligation as human beings to ensure that will happen. Please vote in support of educating our children about systemic racism and how they can be a part of ending it forever.
Thank you,
Tammy Lindahl