

Submitter: Lisa Runquist  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

There has been a deliberate movement in many schools across the country away from teaching reading, writing, arithmetic, civics, history, and other important subjects, substituting instead an emphasis on DEI, sexual mores, and the like. The level of literacy is going down dramatically. As a result, many parents have withdrawn their children from public school and homeschooling is growing.

Local school boards are answerable to the community. Parents are able to have input into what their children are being taught, to assure that the emphasis will be on education rather than conformity. If this right is taken away, the result will be MORE movement away from public schools, and less opportunity for children to relate to others that are from different communities..

The bill does just this, giving state employees the right to unilaterally determine what textbooks MUST be used, overriding the decisions of the local school boards and parents. There is nothing to prevent such employees from using this power to advance political, religious and social positions with the intention of indoctrinating the students. This is wrong. As a result I strongly recommend that the bill not be adopted, either in its present form or with amendments. Thank you.