

Submitter: Joanne Appelgate  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

Please oppose this legislation that moves control of public school district curriculum from the local school boards to the state level. Local school boards are supposed to be accountable to the local communities they serve.

Making such decisions at the state level is not good for students, or parents, or the state. It would only be good for those trying to control the school system & impose their worldview on a wider area with less accountability to voters & parents. Obviously that is precisely the goal of this bill.

As to the merits of the bill itself, one must ask, what does it mean to discriminate? To discriminate, in the basic sense of the word, is to discern, to determine the value of, or to judge the appropriateness of something.

It is the job of local school boards, accountable to local voters & parents, to discriminate between options of curriculum, to discern the value of that curriculum, and to determine the appropriateness of it for the students in their district.

This legislation attempts to impose one set of views, one set of definitions, one way to discriminate values on the whole state.

This bill sounds like it is well-intentioned & high-minded, but instead is rooted in discriminating against those who have values they disagree with. Those same people would cry foul if others had legislative power & forced their views on them across the state. The best way to avoid that from either direction is to have local control by locally elected officials.

Please reject this attempt to remove local control & to impose state-wide definitions & discriminations. Thank you!