

Submitter: Jack Rabenberg  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

I oppose Senate Bill 1583. It will dramatically curtail the rights of local school boards to control the curriculum in schools. It will limit local control of textbooks and other instructional materials. The bill pretends to protect against discrimination. But the intent is clear - to prevent local school boards from removing ideologically driven content that could harm our kids. The proponents are doing this because all across Oregon, communities are pushing back against this agenda that goes against their values and common sense.

Local school boards in Oregon are successfully fighting back against the inclusion of material that promotes dangerous and unproven sex trait modification procedures on children, and sexually explicit content. This includes material that is anti-science and goes against our most fundamental understanding of biology and human nature. This bill could block a school board, which operates on behalf of their local community, from having a say in this content.

Parents are pulling their kids out of Oregon schools by the thousands - passing this bill will only increase that trend.

Parents and local communities have the fundamental right to direct how their schools are run.

In addition, the bill opens school boards up to spurious lawsuits. For example, a board may choose not to utilize a textbook because of sexually explicit material, only to be accused of discrimination based on other grounds.

This is a bad bill!