

Submitter: Robin Lee
On Behalf Of: self and families
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

I strongly oppose this bill. I oppose taking authority away from local school boards and parents. Patently wrong. The duty of public education is to teach basic fundamentals and prepare children to learn to read and write, do math, assimilate history, think for themselves, and as they mature, plan careers. Oregon's students are failing at terrible rates and are no longer prepared for self-sufficiency upon graduation. The basic "3 Rs" have been neglected in favor of gender ideology. This bill purports to "protect" some groups against "discrimination". It is a false alarm. At elementary and junior high ages children many are not concerned with sex--or lifestyles, or race--unless some adult makes a point to introduce "differences". At puberty, when there's interest developed by biology and maturing bodies, teach health and safety. Lifestyles might be discussed as appropriate. Most likely not in the classroom. Children will figure things out without prurient focus. Sexually explicit materials should not be presented in school in the lower grades. And they should be in restricted areas of libraries so that parents may approve their own child's sexual reading materials, being able to talk with them along the way. This bill opens the door to promoting sexually explicit materials to children which can easily lead to confusion and dysphoria. It endorses sexual abuse and leads to grooming and encouraging pedophilia. Young children lack discernment, and such materials can subject them to physical harm including rape, disease, irreversible mutilation, depression and ultimately for far too many children, suicide. This bill won't really protect anyone. it will do great harm. Please vote NO.