

Submitter: Janis Ayers
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

I am a 68-year-old grandmother who is in strong support of SB1583. I have worked in public libraries and have always supported our public schools, our teachers, and school libraries throughout my children's lives. Libraries are essential to upholding the values of this country and the rights of each citizen. If we censor what children can and cannot learn, then how can we expect them to be able to develop critical thinking skills? Why must we narrow their worlds when they have only just begun their lives? Why should my grandchildren be indoctrinated by a narrow but vocally powerful few? What gives them the right to demand only their understanding and interpretation of human experience and the breadth of thought? School libraries, like public libraries, should continue to be a resource that values open-mindedness, inclusivity, curiosity, and respect. I fully support this measure in order to continue to educate our youth, as we have always done and have always fought for. Thank you.