

Submitter: Calley Odum  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

Since:

1) Parents, families, and student will continue to themselves be allowed to simply not read books or materials with which they disagree, and since:

2) The categories in discussion within this bill remain legally protected categories, and since:

3) We as public educators are bound to serve ALL students, regardless of identity, and since:

4) This bill mandates only that material cannot be \*disallowed\* on basis of identity, not that it \*must\* be adopted, and finally:

5) Every student has the right to see themselves reflected in what they read:

I see no reason why such a bill protecting the literary rights of our most vulnerable students should not be enacted. I, in both my professional capacity as a school librarian and in my personal, support SB1583.

I urge you not to be swayed by those who throw around buzzwords like "pornography" or "grooming" in order to sow fear. The only way to foster understanding is to ensure materials exist and are freely available for future readers to understand.