

Submitter: Pinn Crawford
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

I am a credentialed Librarian (MLS), a naturalized immigrant and the mother of a non-binary child.

I support this bill because books don't make kids change who they are. My kid would be non-binary regardless of what they read. But when they read a book with NB or other LGBTQ+ characters they can see them selves and feel validated in their reality. Similarly, kids of color are validated by seeing themselves as characters and heroes in books as opposed to subject or even worse objects in books.

Historical events happened, regardless of how sad or uncomfortable that makes some people feel today. Let's listen to professionals about what constitutes a book that is worthy of inclusion in a Library or taught in class. Teachers know what they are doing. Librarians know what they are doing. Because they are highly trained.

If certain parents (or even worse nosy folk without kids in the current education system) are uncomfortable with discrimination being called out and addressed, perhaps they should rock up to their local public library for a recommendation for some materials to help them broaden their minds. Or they could just mind their own business.

Please pass this bill for all the real kids living in the real world out here.