

Submitter: Kit Stavrum
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB1583

This Bill dramatically curtails the rights of local school boards to control the curriculum in schools. It limits local control of textbooks and other instructional materials. The bill is thinly disguised as protecting against discrimination. But the intent is clear – to prevent local school boards from removing ideologically driven content that could harm our kids.

Look, we as citizens do not want pornographic pictures, CRT Ideology, or gender affirming care instructions in any book our children read, its just 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. I vote to oppose this bill.

Parents and local communities have the fundamental right to direct how their schools are run. But the proponents of SB1583 think they know better than the local communities, and intend to push their progressive, ideologically driven, anti-science agenda on all Oregon schools.

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.

I vote to oppose this bill.