



Brian S. McDowell
Representing Self

City of Residence
Union, OR 97883

Monday, 4 March 2024

House Committee On Rules
Salem, OR
RE: SB 1583

Dear Committee, Members –

I write this letter in opposition to the proposed Senate Bill 1583 currently under consideration because it reduces parental oversight, school choice, and the promotion of virtuous education; and has nothing to do with discrimination.

The bill incorrectly presumes that if a community chooses to not adopt curriculum material or learning aides that it finds offensive to common sensibilities, to be of no educational value, or that is against western or Christian moral values, that it is a form of discrimination. It is not. This is a completely wrong presumption.

The parents comprising a given school district, down to an individual parent, who make their voices heard through channels in our representative form of government, and whose children are subject to Oregon Administrative Rules and Revised Statutes are entitled to have their desires for what curriculum to include or exclude honored, as far as they do not break any established laws or cause injuries to others.

Curriculum materials or aides that deal with subject matters related to sexually explicit, illegal and dangerous sexual adult/child relationships (e.g. pedophilia or child predators), overly sexualized material, or sexual images that in and of themselves can cause emotional damage to children, do not contribute or add value in any way to educating minors or developing civil virtue. Such material is damaging, dangerous, and takes time away from education that contributes to healthy development and workforce competitiveness.

Additionally, the actions, contributions, backgrounds, etc., of any person or group of people from any national origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identify, or other protected class recognized under Oregon and Federal laws, can be honored and taught without promoting subject matter that is otherwise illegal, offensive, sexualized, or potentially damaging to some.

For these reasons **I OPPOSE SB1583** and **urge a NAY/NO** vote.

Sincerely,
Brian Sun McDowell

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” –Philippians 4:8