

Submitter: Emily Newberry
On Behalf Of: myself
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1583

Freedom of speech is a bedrock of our country and banning books, no matter their viewpoint, is wrong. Banning ideas we oppose does not stop them from spreading, in fact it can help spread them. We learn from others with whom we disagree, and our youth need to be able to read from a variety of viewpoints if they are to become responsible citizens in a democracy. I remember my Dad who would hear my sister or I express a belief, and would vigorously argue the opposite viewpoint with us for a while. He wanted to teach us to think for ourselves and to be intellectually honest. That is what I desire for our youth and for all of us.