

Submitter: Nicole Kalk
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1583

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 1583 which seeks to strip school boards of their authority to choose books and curriculum for local schools. As a concerned citizen and parent, I firmly believe that decisions regarding education should remain within the purview of locally elected school boards, who are accountable to the communities they serve.

Local control over education is fundamental to ensuring that curriculum and instructional materials align with the values, priorities, and needs of our community. School boards, comprised of elected representatives chosen by the voters, are best positioned to understand the unique characteristics and preferences of our district. They are entrusted with the responsibility to make informed decisions that reflect the wishes of parents, educators, and taxpayers.

By centralizing decision-making authority at the state level, Senate Bill 1583 would undermine the principles of democracy and erode the voice of local stakeholders in shaping the education of our children. It would strip away the ability of our school board to respond effectively to the diverse perspectives and preferences of our community, resulting in a one-size-fits-all approach that fails to account for local context and values.

Moreover, removing local control could open the door to political interference and ideological agendas dictating what our children are taught. Our school board members are elected to represent the interests of our community, not to be mere conduits for state mandates dictated by distant legislators. This bill threatens to diminish the democratic process and diminish the role of parents and educators in shaping the educational experience of our children.

I urge you to oppose Senate Bill [1583 and preserve the authority of local school boards to make decisions about curriculum and instructional materials. Let us uphold the principles of local governance and ensure that our schools remain responsive to the needs and preferences of our community.

Thank you for considering my perspective on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Nicole