

Submitter: Morgan Haueter
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

To Whom It May Concern,

As both a mother and a school librarian, I urge you to reconsider and stop the passage of this bill. While it may appear to support children's rights to access materials, it ultimately undermines the trust that parents place in the school system.

I take my role as a librarian very seriously, striving to ensure that all my students feel seen and represented in the materials available to them. I believe in offering books that serve as both windows and mirrors—representing a diverse array of experiences while allowing students to see themselves reflected in their reading. However, the trust parents place in me to protect their children from inappropriate content is a responsibility I do not take lightly, and it is one I will not misuse in the name of "representation."

This bill threatens to strip away the discretion of librarians, replacing our understanding of the unique needs of our schools and families with what could only be described as "Big Brother" oversight. Our school communities—students, parents, and school boards—entrust librarians to curate materials that are appropriate for the demographic we serve. We must continue to have the freedom to make these decisions, based on our knowledge of the community, without being forced to include materials that may not align with the values or needs of the families we serve.

I implore you to trust the professionals tasked with this responsibility and allow us to continue our work without the imposition of unnecessary governmental interference.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Morgan Haueter