

Submitter: Amalia Gladhart

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

More than half of all books banned in the U.S. last year featured LGBTQ+ characters or people of color, according to a PEN America report. Books are being unjustifiably targeted with discriminatory intent.

Book bans are used to erase and silence the voice and histories of our most marginalized communities. This bill prohibits discriminatory censorship based on race, national origin, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, physical or mental disability, military status, or marital or family status in library books and school materials. All students deserve to see themselves represented in the books and materials they learn from and the classrooms where they spend their days.

Students also deserve to learn about diverse communities and people.

Censorship of school library materials is not acceptable. This bill will provide important protection for schools and libraries. Vote yes.