

Submitter: Ellen Pederson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Weber, and members of the committee:

As an elementary school librarian and reading interventionist, many of my interactions with parents revolve around book recommendations. Parents' requests run the gamut, from high interest titles for struggling readers to new stories for the child who has seemingly read everything. While these parents' specific needs and experiences vary, it is clear they all love and want the best for their children. Parents play a critical role in their children's development as readers, and their opinions on their children's reading lives should be valued. When books are forcibly removed from libraries, parents lose their freedom to choose what is right for their children. SB 1098 will help ensure that all families have a say in what their children are reading, rather than letting a few parents decide for everyone.

Please vote YES on SB 1098 to protect the freedom of our students and parents.

Thank you,
Ellen Pederson (Portland)