

Submitter: Rebecca McCroskey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1098

I have been a volunteer with the SMART (Smartreading.org) Reading Program for over 2 years. This program's mission is to instill a love of reading in very young children, with the hope that it will continue throughout their lives. We are trained to include "window" books (those which provide a view of another culture or community) and "mirror" books (those which make the reader and their community feel seen) in our sessions. The importance of such books is obvious. Banning books is short-sighted and authoritarian. Parents are free to teach their worldview at home, but when they seek to impose it upon all children, or to censor other viewpoints, or erase other communities, they deeply damage the education to which all of our children are entitled, in order to grow into discerning citizens. Please support this bill.