

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1098

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I strongly oppose SB1098. Providing pornography to children is illegal in Oregon and the entire USA. Why on earth do we want to make it legal in schools? Supporters of this bill claim that opponents want to ban books. There is a difference between banning and choosing what is inappropriate for children. For pete's sake-- and for our children, use some common sense. I have pasted below portions of an article in the NW Observer. Please have a read.

"Studies show that pornography is the most addictive substance, even worse than cocaine. That's because it is never satisfied, and always wants to go to the next level until it reaches rape and murder.

The younger the exposure, the higher the risk. Study shows 86% of boys and 51% of girls are exposed to porn before 18 and some at young as 8 years old. Viewing porn alters the development of dopamine centers shifting and changing their norms and standards. This affects their adult life, depriving them of intimacy, reducing their ability to be aroused by their spouse, robbing them of a satisfying marriage and family life. This bill plays political suicide with children lives. They want to blame guns for an increase in suicides in young people, but this exposes them to what has been proven to be improper and destructive life altering behavior. This will be another reason to homeschool and make public schools less desirable.

Sex education courses must also include information on teen dating violence and "must be presented in a manner sensitive to the fact that there are students who have experienced sexual abuse" and must not devalue or ignore students who have engaged in sexual intercourse. Parents or guardians may remove their children from sex education via a opt-out policy.

SB 1098 applies to teachers with a classroom library, and purchase of textbooks and instructional material. It totally destroys all these safe guards crafted to protect students. Since a school library is defined as part of the educational infrastructure that supports learning, the bill conflicts with the statutes for sex education standards. To give students free reign of sexual materials in the library that does not comply with instructional standards and without parents' knowledge or opt-out option is in violation and should not be permitted.

Placing temptations in school libraries that would be a crime if anyone on the street

were to show these books to a child may lead to other crimes. It opens the door to more experimentation for students and headlines like "St. Helens High School teachers arrested on charges of sexual abuse of students".

Sponsors further don't want any challenges from voters to override their illegal, unethical, and immoral actions by adding an emergency clause to the bill. What constitutes an emergency in a bill that needs preplanning for school boards to enact policies, isn't justified. "

Please vote NO on this horrible bill.