

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Dear Ways and Means Committee members,

As a former home educator who also sent her children to public schools, and as the spouse of a veteran public school educator, I am writing today to enthusiastically ask for your support for HB 618, a parents' bill of rights called ***The Fundamental Parental Rights Bill***.

It is alarming to me, even horrifying, to think that parents need to take time out of our family and work schedules to communicate with the committee on such a topic but we firmly believe that our fundamental rights are undermined by legislation being proposed during this session.

HB 618 will provide much-needed protections for taxpayers who are also parents.

Our children are given to us by God, not by the state to raise as we see fit. If the state truly cares about child well-being why not take a deep dive into the failures of the current public education system across the state? Problems that existed a few years ago have been exacerbated by Covid restrictions and a lack of transparency in curriculum development.

Why not target those areas that are awash in tax dollars even as progress declines so significantly?

Please don't try to fix what is not broken by enacting another round of government overreach.

Sincerely,

Amy M. Gilford