

Written Testimony opposing HB119 / SB199

I am writing to oppose HB119 - County Boards of Education - Curriculum Guides and Courses of Study - Requirements

It is an egregious overreach of state government to broadly mandate curriculum in the schools. It is a breach of the constituents' rights to choose (vote) on locally elected officials to represent them and their values.

There are inevitably going to be "policy and guidelines" which directly violate religious liberty. For example, as a Christian family we believe that individuals are created male and female by God, and that gender is not a social construct or a matter of choice. We believe that sex is to be between a man and a woman inside the sacred covenant of marriage. And we believe that marriage is between one man and one woman. We object to any education framework which teaches material contrary to this. We would insist on the option to opt out of instruction such as this which violates our conscience, and this is not specified in the language of this bill.

This bill should not be allowed to proceed forward without being heard in committee and ultimately a decision should be made to allow for some local control on this issue - determining the curriculum at the local level and allowing parents to opt their students out.

Gratefully,  
Kelly McMillen  
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