

Legislation: HB0119 Health Education

Position: OPPOSE

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Hearing Date: February 1, 2023

The legislators of Maryland are not well suited to determine curriculum for students, codifying a political narrative such as gender theory and sexual orientation for K-12 students is outside the bounds of your expertise. If legislators would like to affect change, how about codifying the basics like reading, writing and arithmetic?

The clause about mandating HIV and AID for young children is outrageous. I have first-hand experience with this "education" or better described as inappropriate sex education. In 2007 my fifth grade son (age 11) was to receive AID/HIV education and parents were invited to preview the documentary. I did so and was shocked, my 5<sup>th</sup> grade son would have been told six times on this video to "not have unprotected sex". This my dear elected representatives is a double negative statement, in other words the statement "have protected sex" was repeated six times. I pulled my son as this is inappropriate for a 5<sup>th</sup> grade child.

Next, I researched how many AIDS/HIV cases there were for the State of Maryland for children 12 and under. Back in those days, the CDC would publish this information (not anymore). I found one possible reported case in the state of Maryland for age 12 and under. Is this a good idea to sexually indoctrinate children for one case of possible AIDS/HIV? I do not think so and you should think this is a bad idea too.

The inclusion of gender identity and sexual orientation should not be included into the state framework or any law forcing it into the standard curriculum. These are topics that parents should determine when to teach their children.

Please do not approve this bill as it is political and radical.