



**Senate Bill 355 Cross-filed with HB 0671**

**Title: Criminal Law - Display of Obscene Materials to Minors - Prohibition**

**Hearing Date: February 1, 2024**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

**Committee: Judicial Proceedings**

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee requests a Favorable Report for SB 355.

Parents have the fundamental right to direct the education of their children. The child belongs to the parent or legal guardian and not to the state. Therefore, parents have every right and obligation to protect their child from books and materials containing obscene content.

A well orchestrated campaign to bring sexually explicit materials is being waged across the country. One sees the same books being named from state to state.

The American Library Association, led by a self-proclaimed Marxist lesbian called Emily Drabinki, <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/american-library-association-president-marxist-lesbian-rcna98254> cites lists of the most challenged books yearly. For each of the books on the 2022 list, the ALA cites “claimed to be sexually explicit.”

According to the ALA, the most challenged book for 2022 was *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe. This graphic novel features a picture of oral sex being performed on a sex toy. This is just one of many obscene graphic pictorial depictions in this book. It also contains X-rated passages.

A review of this book can be found here:

<https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/G/Gender%20Queer.pdf>

A quick flip through this most challenged novel will be enough for the average parent of a public school student to question whether their tax dollars are being abused.

Some of the other most challenged books of 2022 were *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson which contains underage incest. *Lawn Boy* by Jonathan Evison contains a passage about 10 year old boys performing oral sex on each other. *This Book is Gay* by Juno Dawson provides a guide on how to hook up with strangers on gay sex apps.

There is a true disconnect between what extremist led organizations deem appropriate for school aged children and what parents think is appropriate. The claims of parents are well founded. Parents have every right to deem what is and is not appropriate material for their children. Legislation to address these concerns is past due.

### **Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee urges a Favorable Report for SB 355.**

*Suzie Scott*, Chair

Moms for Liberty Maryland Legislative Committee

<https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/parents-objecting-pornographic-material-school-libraries-arent-book-banners>

<https://www.heritage.org/education/commentary/who-decides-what-children-read-authoritarians-slander-parent-groups-book>

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10>