

HB 1181: Education – Curriculum Standards – Antihate and Holocaust Education (Educate to Stop the Hate Act): Please OPPOSE this bill as written!!

Dear Ways & Means Committee Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and all other esteemed Committee Members:

I encourage all of you to OPPOSE this bill as it is currently written. OR introduce amendments that would make this legislation more fair to ALL groups.

I feel like this bill was written with good intentions. Stopping hate is a good thing, right? Of course it is! I understand that the groups listed may have been disadvantaged at one time or another. However, this bill lists just about every racial and ethnic group **except** for white, Caucasian Americans. With the current hate-filled groups like Antifa and BLM, with their hate toward white, Caucasian Americans, this country has now become a place where it is accepted and even encouraged to hate white, Caucasian Americans. This is wrong!! Since I feel like this bill was written with good intentions, why was this group left out?

With the intent of this bill being to stop hate, why can't we list white, Caucasian Americans in this bill as well? We should not hate **anyone!!** We should include in this bill to teach history, ALL of history, not just specific parts. Do we teach about African Americans owning other African Americans as slaves? I hope so, because they did. Do we teach Irish people owning slaves? I hope so, because they did. I could go on and on, but the point is that history has its negative elements as well as its positive elements. We have a responsibility to teach it ALL.

That is the reason why I encourage all of you to OPPOSE this bill as it is currently written. If there were **amendments** made to include white, Caucasian Americans in the list as a more currently "hated" group with teaching at all grade levels about why that is, then I would support this bill. I think our students deserve to understand that the way to stop hate is **NOT** with more hate. Things will never be made right for one group of people by hating another group of people! What we should be teaching is to embrace **all** people, not just certain groups of people. All groups of people throughout history have had good people and bad people. And the lesson in that is that no group of people is inherently good or inherently bad. **All** people should be treated fairly and equally, because all people are equal!!

If the bill included amendments to include white, Caucasian Americans in the list as a more currently “hated” group; OR the if bill indicated that certain groups of people may have been more historically disadvantaged, but measures have been taken in an attempt to make that right, and that more progress still needs to be made to treat all groups of people fairly and equally; AND that we should teach that all people are inherently equal; AND that we should STOP hating certain groups of people, including the current hate toward white, Caucasian Americans, then I would support this bill whole-heartedly!! It is always a good time to stop hate!!

Thank you for your courtesy and cooperation in OPPOSING this bill, as it is currently written, OR supporting this bill with the amendments that I have previously mentioned!!

Trudy Tibbals  
A Very Concerned Mother and Maryland Resident