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Subject: HB0161

As a concerned citizen, a grandparent of a Cecil County Public School student and as a County Council member for Cecil County, I am asking for an UNFAVORABLE position on HB161.

The State should Not be dictating what is and is not appropriate for the educational system to be tutoring children about human sexuality, gender identity and sexual orientation. Those conversations should occur between the parents and the child. The parent has the right to instill their values when it comes to sexual content. Politicians and educators have no place in those conversations.

Educators should be instructing on the biology of genders, male and female only. Educators should only be discussing a female's reproductive system which would include the menstrual cycle and what happens to their body as they mature. They should be instructed to abstain from sexual activity until they are in a committed relationship and what could happen should they fail to abstain. Furthermore, they should be encouraged to discuss the options available to them should they choose not to abstain, with their parents.

Males should be educated on their bodies and what occurs in their bodies as they mature. Discussions may include discussions about their testosterone, their impulses and the need to abstain from sexual activity. Males should be taught the outcomes of engaging in sexual activity with females.

Both boys and girls should understand the potential outcomes of being sexually active, such as pregnancy and sexually transmitted disease. PERIOD!!!

There should be absolutely no conversations in the school related to more than two genders or how to perform various form of sexual acts. There should also be no discussions revolving around gay or lesbian sexual conduct, or pedophilia.

Again, parents reserve the right to have these discussions with their child when they feel it is appropriate. Not all children are prepared for such discussions at a specific age. One size education does not fit all. What is appropriate for one child may not be appropriate for another child of the same age. The parents know their children best and therefore are to be the ones to have the sexual discussion when they deem it is appropriate. Keep government, politics, and educators out of these important family discussions.

For these reasons, I request an UNFAVORABLE position on HB161.

Donna Culberson