

SB0566

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Pamela Hohlbein

1386 Jay Rd

Eldersburg MD 21784

The Fundamental Parental Rights bill SB0566 is a bill to further constrain teachers on what they can teach and what books can be in the classrooms and in the media centers. Parents have always had the fundamental right to know what their children are learning and what books they are reading. They have always had the ability to look at curriculum and have conversations with teachers. Parents have always had the right to be involved in schools through volunteering and joining PTA/PTO's

The primary reason the bill was written is because a small minded group of women, Moms for Liberty,

- do not want their children to learn that some families have two dads/moms
- They want full control over what books are in classrooms and media centers
- Eradicate inclusion/DEI
- Eliminate inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people from all curriculum
- Eliminate or soften difficult history lessons so their kids wont feel bad
- Make racism a non-issue by not discussing it at all

One just has to look at Florida as ground zero for the "parental rights" movement. It started with a "parental rights" bill, and has since moved into book banning, erasing black history (see the AP African Studies program), full control and elimination of College majors in Black History, Gender Studies, Jewish studies, Asian studies.

This bill provides a vague legal scaffolding that could be used to support future lawsuits from conservative parents seeking to exert control over school curriculum. This will be a waste of time, energy and resources and will shift the focus away from the real issues our schools systems face.

This whole Parental Rights bills main purpose is to destroy public education, claim it is a failed system and replace it with vouchers for private schools. Public schools do not need to follow IEPs, 504s and can freely discriminate against marginalized populations of students.

Again, Parents have always had fundamental rights over their children's education. We have always had the right to review curriculum, monitor what books our children are reading, create a partnership with teachers, or become involved in parent teacher organizations. Nothing has changed.

If we really read between the lines, we will see the true intent of this bill and other legislation just like it. Reading between the lines, what will be seen is that it is not about having rights over our own children's education. It's about allowing a group of people with Christian Nationalist views to have control over how all of our children are educated and teaching them WHAT to think, instead of how to think. This bill begs the ask: whose parents rights are to be put above others? Mine, as a parent child that is part of the LGBTQIA+ student body who would like to read books with characters that represent themselves, or the parent that spews hate over our LGBTQIA+ students and wish them to go back into the closet?

As a parent of a public school student in Carroll County, I am not willing to concede my rights to extremists. We need legislation that will support our teachers, and schools. Not legislation that will destroy them.

Please oppose SB0566