

March 25, 2024

RE: HB558

I am writing to ask you for an unfavorable vote on HB558.

Local boards of education are elected by the citizens in each district to represent them, their interests and their needs. Stripping power from local boards of education is antithetical to our republic system of government.

This framework presents very controversial topics of which there are no consensus. Schools should be teaching the facts: Reading, Writing, Math, Science, History (true American history, not removing parts that don't fit an agenda) & arts. Sexual Education should focus on biology and reproduction - not lessons teaching our children gender ideology or explicit sexual acts. Boys are biologically boys and girls are biologically girls - there are no other genders. I do not want my children or anyone else's children being taught anything that is not scientifically true - this is merely dumbing down our children and our society.

In this framework, kindergarteners will be taught gender ideology - including the belief that there are more than two genders and a person can choose - that is absolute nonsense. This is a belief, not a fact, of some but not all. In seventh grade, 12 year olds will be taught about anal sex and solo sex. Many parents do not agree with public schools teaching seventh graders about different sex acts – I, for one, do not agree and will not allow my children to be taught this disgusting curriculum therefore, I have taken my children out of the public system and if this nonsense continues, I'm sure many others will do the same. But I am here to speak for those who do not have the ability to do what I have done and I will fight for the innocent children who are being subjected to this.

Our public school system needs to go back to the basics and again teach children how to learn, how to prosper and how to think - NOT WHAT TO THINK BUT HOW TO THINK.

Parents have the fundamental right to direct the upbringing, care and education of their children. These topics are not appropriate for schools to teach. This should be discussed by parents or guardians at their discretion. Forcing these topics on children is child abuse in my opinion.

The focus of the MSDE and the legislature should be to serve the best interests of our children - provide them with safe schools that focus on academics where they can learn and thrive - our children deserve nothing less. This bill goes against all of these principles and if passed will be a

danger to our kids and a slap in the face to us as parents. I stand against this bill and I hope you do as well.

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