



January 21, 2025

RE: HB0282

Dear Ways and Means Committee:

We currently have obscenity laws that prohibit obscene content provided to minor children and defined as illegal under Maryland State Criminal Law Code Annotated §11-201, § 11-202, § 11-203 and federal 18 U.S.C. § 1470.

Currently, school libraries and media centers are ignoring these laws using obscene/sexually explicit content (both graphic and textual) designed and selected to sexualize children. There needs to be protective measures in place to protect minors. Sexual exploitation of children is a major problem in Maryland. If any adult were to show another adult the content of these books in the workplace, it would be classified as sexual harassment.



Exhibit of an obscene book in a middle school, available to 11-year olds.

HB0282 Public Schools - Sexually Explicit Materials - Prohibited in Libraries and Media Centers is responsible educational legislation. The DPTC supports HB0282 (YEA).

Darren Lombardo, Director
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