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HB282
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Statement of Support HB282
Public Schools – Sexually Explicit Materials – Prohibited in Libraries and Media Centers

Out of concern for the mental and physical wellbeing of all children, I support HB282. I am a lifelong Maryland resident and have raised 4 children in this state. There is no place for sexually explicit materials anywhere in the schools.

The proper education of children needs to remain centered around academics – math, science, English, and reading. A strong academic education is fundamental to the success of the student as an adult. Any health classes meant to teach about the body and the reproductive system need to be factually based in science. Discussion of the body and reproduction must be about how the reproductive system functions. There should be no discussion of sex acts with children. That is the purview of the parents.

While medical drawings of the body and internal organs may be appropriate for a science class, these drawings must be nonsexual and age appropriate. There should be no pictures or drawings of 2 people engaging in sexual behavior. There should not be pictures or drawings of men and women in sexual poses. We do not allow Penthouse, Playboy, Hustler, etc. in the schools. Books depicting sexual acts need to be prohibited from schools.

As far as books for leisure reading, those books should not contain pictures or descriptions of sexual behavior in them. It is inappropriate for public schools, directly or indirectly, to encourage sexual activity among children. It is the purview of the parents to decide when and what to discuss with their children when it comes to romantic relationships and sexual behavior.

Exposing children to sexually explicit materials is another way to groom children for sex and make them vulnerable to sexual predators. Schools should be a place of academics and not a place of sexology for kids.

In addition, I would amend the bill to include prohibiting these materials from the classrooms and any school space. For all of the reasons stated, I encourage you to protect kids and give a favorable report on HB282.