

March 3, 2021

To: [HouseEducation@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseEducation@rilegislature.gov)

From: Diandra Kalish, Advisor, The Met High School, diandrakalish@gmail.com

**I, Diandra Kalish, am in favor of passing House Bill 5604** to make sex education required for a larger age range of students, and ensure it is inclusive, and medically accurate for students regardless of gender identity, race, or sexual orientation. I am a trained sex educator, and an advisor at The Met High School in Providence. It is imperative that the curriculum includes examples that will help *all* students make informed and safe decisions about their sexual health. The Met partners with Brown University to bring the SHAPE program (created by Planned Parenthood) to our students. This program is made to provide medically accurate and inclusive sex education. My students have described our school's sex education programming "expanding their knowledge with real and honest content, and accurate terminology that relates to all of them and not just some of them." Having comprehensive sex ed will help students to make healthy and informed decisions, and ensure they feel included in the conversation.