

Dear Judiciary Committee and Education Committee,

I am a Family Nurse Practitioner working at Lifespan Women's Medicine Collaborative and a mother of two children living in East Greenwich.

I oppose H5739, H5688, H5859 and want to express my concerns.

These proposals severely limit our teachers and schools in providing an education with free access to information, history, and safety for all gender and sexual identities. The rights of our children to pursue independent thinking and their own identity is limited by these proposed bills.

Learning about people of color and those from marginalized genders and sexualities is important in supporting our understanding and progressing diversity in our communities.

As a healthcare provider to transgender individuals there is need for a trauma informed and inclusive environment in all spaces, but most importantly schools.

As a mother I stand by the importance that our schools should be a place where diverse experiences are celebrated. Where empathy and understanding of our tumultuous history is expressed so that we can learn and grow. All students should feel safe at school with access to basic needs that support gender and sexual diversity.

I also thank you for all your hard work, you don't hear it enough, but the work you do really matters. If you ever have questions and want to talk you can always reach out.

Best,

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