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Lee Rodman AGAINST Bill H7781

April 9, 2024

To the House Committee on Education:

The "Parents Bill of Rights Act", Bill H7781, calls for parents to have a level of control over children and their schools that would both be impossible to enforce and, more importantly, could be deeply harmful to children. Please do not support H7781, and please vote AGAINST it if a vote is held.

This bill prohibits schools from withholding information about a student from a parent, regardless of how disclosing that information would impact a child's well-being. This law could be especially harmful to LGBTQIA+ students who may experience negative physical and mental health impacts if family members hear about and are unwilling to accept their child's gender identity or sexual orientation. Our laws should prioritize the well-being of each child, not their parents' sense of control.

I urge you not to move forward with bill H7781, and to vote AGAINST it if a vote is held.

Sincerely,

Lee Rodman Providence, RI 02906