

**Lisa Cataldi**

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**From:** Jennifer Lima <jlima2647@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 29, 2025 5:09 PM  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**Subject:** H5604

H5604  
Oppose  
Jennifer Lima

Chair McNamara and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to H5604 which would broaden the definition of "teacher" and create a comprehensive bill of rights for school teachers.

While it may appear to have some worthwhile goals, it would also give almost anyone working in Rhode Island schools the ability to non-consensually out LGBTQ+ students and allow them nearly unrestricted speech that could create a hostile environment for any minority students.

I support ensuring teachers are able to work in an environment that is safe, free of discrimination/harassment, and respectful of their professional education and experience. However, the current wording of this bill creates the potential for unsafe spaces for students. Please do not support this bill as written.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Lima  
4 Hickory Drive East  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

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Jennifer Lima (she/her/hers)

[Why Pronouns Matter](#)

[Talking About Pronouns in the Workplace - HRC Foundation \(thehrcfoundation.org\)](#)

"Diversity is a fact. Equity is a choice. Inclusion is an action. Belonging is an outcome." - Arthur Chan

***My working hours may not be your working hours. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal work schedule.***