

Lisa Cataldi

From: Heather DeSantis <desantis.heather@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 10:43 AM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: OPPOSE H5837

Dear members of the House Education Committee,

I am a resident of Westerly, Rhode Island. I am writing to share my opposition to Bill H5837, the bill that would allow parents to refuse consent for their children to learn sexual education. It has been proven that lackluster sexual education leads to increased rates of teen pregnancy and STIs and only comprehensive sexual education taught by an educator is the cure for reducing those rates.

Individual parents should not have control over what their children do and do not learn in public school. Education should be in the hands of the educators who have been trained to educate the students. Refusing sexual education comes from a basis of puritanical values that actively get in the way of educating the youth. More information is never a bad thing and offering parents the right to refuse information for their children will harm those children and more who will only be subject to misinformation in the future.

Thank you for your time,
Heather DeSantis