

Jeanette Bradley
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Ms. Cataldi
Committee Clerk
House Education Committee

4/23/2025

RE: House Bill No. [5837](#) - Opposed

Dear members of the House Education Committee,

As a parent in the Rhode Island school system, I urge you to oppose H5837. Rhode Island law already provides an opt-out to health and family life classes. Requiring an opt-in from every parent on curriculum materials is a labor-intensive and costly process. This money could better be spent on the many needs of our schools – physical maintenance that has been deferred, student needs that are currently unmet, and paying staff such as school librarians.

The intent behind this bill must be noted – it is an attempt to restrict access to information, and is a form of soft censorship. Parents already have the right to opt their children out, but they don't have the right to prevent other people's children from receiving developmentally appropriate sex education by making it so onerous for school districts that they drop sex education all together.

Thank you,

Jeanette Bradley