

Lisa Cataldi

From: Jess McKenna-Ratjen <jessmckenn@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 10:25 AM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: Vote NO on H5837

Hello,

I am writing in opposition to the bill H5837.

Parents are currently able to opt out of the sexual education curriculum in Rhode Island if they wish. No one is forced to allow their children to be educated in this way. Why, then, must we reverse the process to "opt in?"

Clearly the point of this bill is to make sexual education resources, most notably resources for LGBTQIA+ students, increasingly difficult to access. Requiring a parent to actively check a box to state "I want my child to receive a full education in this school system" is a ludicrous proposition.

Given the current cultural climate surrounding truth and untruth, "fake news" and propaganda, it is more important than ever that we as Rhode Islanders fall on the side of information and education. To do otherwise is to begin the slow descent into tyranny.

Regards,

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