

My name is Blair Sanders, and as a neurodivergent mother, military wife, and former teacher, I strongly oppose this bill and urge that it not be passed.

Through both my professional experience in education during a previous military duty assignment and now as a homeschooling parent, I understand firsthand that children do not all learn the same way.

Homeschooling has allowed my daughter to receive an education tailored to their individual needs, learning styles, and emotional well-being in ways that a traditional classroom could not provide.

Military families already face unique challenges — frequent moves, deployments, changing support systems, and constant transition.

Homeschooling provides consistency, stability, and flexibility for our children during those seasons.

This bill creates fear and uncertainty for responsible homeschool families by giving districts more subjective power over whether parents are “fit” to educate their own children.

For neurodivergent families especially, that is deeply concerning. Many of us have spent years advocating for our children, learning what helps them thrive, and building educational environments that truly support them.

As someone who has worked in education myself, I am confident in the quality and intentionality of the education I provide my daughter.

Parents should not have to fear that a district’s opinion could suddenly outweigh the daily reality of what is best for their child.

The overwhelming majority of homeschool families are loving, dedicated, and deeply invested in their children’s success. We deserve support, not additional barriers and government overreach.

Please vote no on this bill and continue protecting educational freedom for Rhode Island families.

Thank you.