

Lisa Cataldi

From: tricia benoit <mstrsst666@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2026 11:25 AM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: `OPPOSE H 8531 - House Education Committee Hearing May 19`

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Dear Chairman McNamara and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Tricia Benoit Celletti, and I am a resident of West Warwick, Rhode Island. I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose H 8531.

As a homeschooling parent, I am incredibly concerned about the subjective power this bill gives to local school committees. By allowing boards to deny or delay homeschooling based on undefined terms like a parent's "capacity" or "competency," it creates an unfair barrier for families who are trying to do what is best for their children.

I made the decision to homeschool my daughter after sending my son through the West Warwick Public School system. My daughter struggled with learning through verbal instruction. I have been able to tailor to her needs by adding in visual and hands-on learning methods, and she is thriving academically. We utilize our community library and other organizations for additional classes. Doing this, she is in classes with students of all ages, interests, and cultures, and she has an easier time interacting and forming friendships with them—more so than my public school son did. I believe that this is because she isn't stuck in a class with only students of the same age. She is challenged, learning, and growing with the help and support of others.

Please vote ****NO**** on H 8531 during Tuesday's hearing and protect the rights of Rhode Island families.

Thank you for your time and service,

Tricia Benoit Celletti
West Warwick, RI
Member of ENRICHri Secular Homeschoolers