February 28, 2024

Steven Sepe

the Clerk for the House Committee on State Government and Elections

Dear Mr. Sepe:

I have lived in RI my entire life. My husband and I raised 3 children in Providence. I am writing in support of H7386 The Freedom to Read Act.

One of my greatest joys is reading. I have read thousands of books myself and to my children. I have encouraged my children to have a joy of reading.

I never restricted materials that my children read. If I was "uncomfortable" with the subject matter of a book, we would discuss it.

As Emily Dickinson would say:

There is no frigate like a book (1263)

There is no Frigate like a Book
To take us Lands away,
Nor any Coursers like a Page
Of prancing Poetry –
This Traverse may the poorest take
Without oppress of Toll –
How frugal is the Chariot
That bears a Human soul.

Sincerely,
Diane Comerford
8 Trinity Pkwy
Providence, RI 02908