## **Steven Sepe**

From:

PEARL HOLLOWAY < pkh4346@verizon.net>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:36 AM

To:

House State Government and Elections Committee

Subject:

Freedom to Read

I, Pearl K. Holloway, am writing to you today regarding H7386, the Freedom to Read legislation. I strongly favor passage of this bill because the forces to ban books are gaining strength nationwide. Everyone deserves to see themselves in literature. Reading about diverse cultures, gender orientation, religions, etc. does not increase the likelihood that the reader will embrace that issue. It just allows for more understanding of others which can only enrich and improve the life of the reader. Ignorance tends to cause fear which in turn may become bigotry. As a state, we should encourage understanding to lessen that fear. Therefore, I encourage passage of the Freedom to Read legislation.