From:

Katie McBride <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 11:20 AM

To:

Rep. Jamie Allard

Subject:

HB 105

Representative Allard,

I am writing to ask that you oppose HB 105, Alaska's version of "Don't Say Gay" in schools. We know that gay and trans youth have the highest rates of suicide. This legislation would lead to tragic increases in youth suicide. I urge you to oppose HB 105.

Respectfully,

Katie McBride

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on behalf of Haley Amorelli <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 12:22 PM

To: Subject: Rep. Jamie Allard I oppose HB 105

Dear Jamie Allard,

I urge you to oppose HB 105. Transgender youth is one of the most vulnerable demographics in the world. They need our help. We live in a country that is supposed to be free, and this is in clear violation of freedom. Human rights come first. Please support trans rights. Our future dep3nds on treating our own people well.

Sincerely,

Miss Haley Amorelli

From:

on behalf of Esther Smith

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:24 PM

To: Subject: Rep. Jamie Allard I oppose HB 105

Dear Jamie Allard,

I urge you to oppose HB 105. This bill is a clear danger to LGBTQIA2S+ youth and their civil liberties. It would out students without their consent, bar trans youth from using bathrooms matching their gender identity, and create an unwelcome learning environment that will harm students' mental and physical health.

We cannot condone bullying, harassment, and discrimination. If you support this bill, you are doing just that. As a member of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, someone who has spent 8 years working in domestic and sexual violence prevention, and a life-long Alaskan and active voter, I strongly urge you to oppose this bill.

Sincerely,

Mx. Esther Smith

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on behalf of Samuel March

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:56 PM

To: Subject: Rep. Jamie Allard I oppose HB 105

Dear Jamie Allard,

I urge you to oppose HB 105. As a teacher at Bartlett High, my personal experience with transgender students sadly mirrors the research that is readily available, that transgender youth face intense and harmful transphobia and hate from family and peers resulting in depression and self-harm. The most foundational value in my profession and as a citizen is to protect children. This bill targets for harassment students who are most vulnerable and most in need of protection in order to appease religion zealotry of a hateful minority. Please listen to your teachers who know this will cause harm, the doctors and medical professionals who know this will cause harm, please listen to the parents of transgender youth who love their children and know this will cause harm, and listen to the children themselves. This bill is unnecessary. ASD School districts already have sound policy that protect kids. That policy is working. To prove this I ask you to find even one student who has experienced an unfair playing field or has felt unsafe inside of a bathroom. I don't think you can because these bills are based on irrational fear stoked by demagogues.please do the right thing as protect children by opposing this bill.

Sincerely,

Mr. Samuel March

From: on behalf of Jimena Cuenca <

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:14 PM

To: Rep. Jamie Allard **Subject:** I oppose HB 105

Dear Jamie Allard,

I urge you to oppose HB 105.

Every parent hopes our laws will ensure our children's safety, protection, and freedom. But HB 105 / SB 96 rejects those values and targets kids for bullying and mistreatment, just because of who they are.

Every student deserves a fair chance to succeed in school and prepare for their future—including students who are LGBT. Every student should be treated fairly and equally under the law, and protecting LGBT students helps ensure that they have the same opportunity as their classmates to fully participate in school.

Students should be able to learn and thrive in a safe school environment. Our schools should strive to protect all students from bullying, discrimination and mistreatment, including those who are LGBT. HB 105 is trying to force schools to violate that most basic trust. All students deserve a safe school environment, and forcing transgender students into restrooms that don't match their gender identity puts their safety at risk. Many transgender students face hostility, discrimination and bullying. According to the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey, 54% of survey respondents reported having been verbally harassed in K–12 schools, and nearly one-quarter (24%) of respondents reported having been physically attacked in school because they were transgender."

 $(https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://www.ustranssurvey.org/reports/*2015report__;lw!!LdQKC6s!KEsqyUU1IFTvyiOltEHVDZncZU1q6TAaz0ZfjD3z6PeToagQ_wHNTpUOOpsWADWN5PyAxqxRdcu2NR6ek2clp8g8wGc131ot8Eml-dGZEg$)$

HB 105 is also trying to erase LGBT students, families, and history by banning any discussion about them in schools. This sends a message that LGBT kids are not welcome in classrooms and schools.

LGBT students are part of our school communities, and like other students, they're there to learn, graduate and prepare for their future.

To protect all students' privacy and health, I urge you to oppose HB 105 / SB 96.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Ms. Jimena Cuenca

From:

Lisa Schramek <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:09 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Bill105

Hello Alaskan House Legislators, I am an Alaskan teacher living in Petersburg and I oppose House Bill 105. Thank you,

Lisa

Lisa E. Schramek Adams

www.leschramek.com

Sign up here to receive my art newsletter

From:

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:06 PM

To: Cc: House Education Rep. Louise Stutes

Subject:

Opposition to HB 105 "Parental Rights Bill"

Good afternoon.

This is to express my strong opposition to HB 105.

Don Roberts Jr Kodiak, Alaska

From:

Mary Corcoran <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:57 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Public Testimony HB105

To the Members of the House Education Committee,

I am opposed to HB105. These proposed rules as too restrictive, largely redundant, and onerous. Frankly no illustration has been shown that something must be further legislated.

School personnel have adequate rules in place to inform parents. The school personnel do not need more to do.

Parents who are concerned about what's going on at their children's school already have the tools to inquire and exercise alterations in their children's activities.

Most importantly, children who are not a stereotype of "normal" will suffer mentally and physically. We all have a moral, legal obligation to nurture these students. Their safety in a public education system is our first obligation.

I ask that you do not vote for this bill. I speak from over 30 years of classroom experience. This is my first testimony regarding HB105.

Thank you for your work and attention.

Respectfully, Mary Corcoran Delta Junction, AK

From:

Johnny <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:51 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

HB105

My name is Johnny. I live in Alaska and I am representing myself. I'm here to state that I strongly oppose HB105.

Sincerely, Johnny Shawn Hammons, Jr

From:	n behalf of Erin Janoso
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Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:43 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Please Pass HB 99/SB108: LGBTQ+ Equality and Oppose HB 105/SB96

Dear Alaska House Education Committee,

Please pass HB 99/SB 108: LGBTQ+ Equality and oppose HB 105/SB96, Governor Dunleavy's attack on LGBTQ+ youth.

LGBTQ+ Alaskans deserve equality, period. LGBTQ+ Alaskans are our friends, neighbors, family, and coworkers. When it comes to being able to earn a living, having a place to live, or being served by a business or government office, they should be treated like anyone else and not be discriminated against.

I urge you to pass HB 99/SB108: LGBTQ+ Equality.

Governor Dunleavy's HB 105/SB96 is an attack on LGBTQ+ youth and will undoubtedly increase bullying, harassment, and stigmatization towards trans students in particular. Through this bill, Dunleavy is attacking Alaska students' sense of safety, making it extremely difficult for LGBTQ+ kids to live healthy and safe lives. All kids deserve to be safe at school. Trans youth should be treated with dignity and respect and should have the opportunity to live a healthy life.

To protect all students' privacy and health, I urge you to oppose HB 105/SB96.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Mx. Erin Janoso

From:

M O'Shea Spring <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:41 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

HB105

My name is Meghan O'Shea Spring and I reside in Kasilof, Alaska. I am writing regarding HB105, as I am currently unable to testify in person or via phone.

According to Covenant House Alaska, "LGBTQ youth represent as much of 40% of the homeless youth population. LGTBQ youth are 120% more likely to be homeless than their non-LGTBQ peers" (https://covenanthouseak.org/lgbtq-vouth-homelessness-why-it-matters-and-how-you-can-help/). Family rejection contributes to these alarming statistics.

Along with family rejection, LGTBQ youth face discrimination and bullying in the schools & in their communities. These can lead to issues of depression, substance abuse, and suicide - all pervasive problems in Alaska.

HB105 targets an already vulnerable population. Outing a child to unaccepting parents puts that child at risk for parental rejection, often leading to homelessness, substance abuse, depression, suicide. Schools need to be safe places for ALL children, regardless of their sexuality or gender identity.

Alaska has an astoundingly high rate of child sexual abuse. Child sexual assault in Alaska is almost 6 times the national average. 73% of child sexual abuse cases are perpetrated by someone the child knows (https://www.alaskasnewssource.com/content/news/Child-sex-assault-in-Alaska-almost-six-times-national-average-494313971.html). Children having the language to disclose abuse to a trusted adult is vital. HB105 would make such disclosures more difficult, especially for young children.

BH105 is an unnecessary bill. It targets vulnerable students. I urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you, Meghan O'Shea Spring Kasilof, AK

From:

sharon roufa <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:39 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Hb105

Please vote against hb105. It's offensive to see bills like this (meaningless and potentially harmful gender war bull crap) put forward while this legislature is also defunding education and refusing to support students or teachers in any meaningful way. Parents already have rights over their offspring. School is a safe place for kids to learn and grow and express themselves separately from their parents. And this legislation isn't helpful to that. Sharon Roufa

Homer, AK 99603

From:

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 2:31 PM

To: Cc: House Education Cassandra Raun

Subject:

Oppose HB105

House Education Committee,

Please join me in opposing HB 105. Public testimony to-date has shown overwhelming opposition. I stand with every Alaskan who has spoken out against this bill. I implore you to do the same.

I am not an educator or school administrator. I am not employed by a school district. I am, simply and humbly, a parent of three public school students in Alaska.

As a parent, I exercise my rights every night at the dinner table when engaging my children about their school day. I exercise my rights every morning when I ask them, "what's on tap for learning today?" I exercise my rights every time I choose to engage with their teachers and administrators. I do NOT need this bill to protect, preserve, or enhance my rights.

Please oppose HB105.

Respectfully, Jeff Raun Anchorage, AK

Sent from my iPhone

From:	on behalf of Kevin Hammer <	

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:14 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Please Pass HB 99/SB108: LGBTQ+ Equality and Oppose HB 105/SB96

Dear Alaska House Education Committee,

Please pass HB 99/SB 108: LGBTQ+ Equality and oppose HB 105/SB96, Governor Dunleavy's attack on LGBTQ+ youth.

LGBTQ+ Alaskans deserve equality, period. LGBTQ+ Alaskans are our friends, neighbors, family, and coworkers. When it comes to being able to earn a living, having a place to live, or being served by a business or government office, they should be treated like anyone else and not be discriminated against.

I urge you to pass HB 99/SB108: LGBTQ+ Equality.

Governor Dunleavy's HB 105/SB96 is an attack on LGBTQ+ youth and will undoubtedly increase bullying, harassment, and stigmatization towards trans students in particular. Through this bill, Dunleavy is attacking Alaska students' sense of safety, making it extremely difficult for LGBTQ+ kids to live healthy and safe lives. All kids deserve to be safe at school. Trans youth should be treated with dignity and respect and should have the opportunity to live a healthy life.

To protect all students' privacy and health, I urge you to oppose HB 105/SB96.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mr. Kevin Hammer

From:

lan T Zacher

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 1:01 PM

To: Subject:

House Education Opposing HB105

To whom it may concern,

I want to express my utter contempt and disapproval of the Governor's HB 105 "Don't Be Gay Bill". This does nothing but continue the marginalization of an already marginalized group. It is despicable, cruel, and dehumanizing. This bill would not only cause student's to not trust educators, but it would increase suicide and homeless rates among students that identify as LGBTQ. This bill is a dog whistle for the continuing demonization of children...children, with a façade dressed up as parental rights. This is a hateful bill spearheaded by a religious minority and embraced by this Governor and Attorney General as well as the members of the school board. Most Alaskans want protections for LGBTQ children and adults and this bill is in flagrant opposition to the will of our state to appease a bigoted and vocal minority. We need to keep bills like this out of our state and keep the lower 48 out of our politics. We should be nurturing and caring for these kids and not abandoning them to a hysterical manufactured outraged group.

Go raibh maith agat,

lan Zacher Owner of Feirme Béar Donn Kodiak, AK

From:

N <

Sent:

Thursday, April 13, 2023 12:22 PM

To: Subject: House Education
HB 105 opposition

Let it be known that as a former student of Alaska Public Schools, and a continued Alaska resident, I am opposed to HB 105.

Students enrolled in public school should be educated with the current best knowledge regarding biological sex, reproduction, gender identity, and related issues. Like any other topic, sex education ought to be approached in an open, accurate and fearless mode, giving students an effective operating knowledge of the world, and the culture in which they live. Students will have to navigate these subjects throughout their lives -- in most cases starting well before legal adulthood, regardless of what some parents might prefer. A nuanced understanding of the issues will benefit students both in their youth, and in their maturation into productive and civil members of society.

In preparation for engagement with the adult social world, and to better understand themselves during their development, students ought to be presented with accurate and thorough biological information. They should also be presented with a wide range of perspectives on social topics, and invited to participate in the conversation around these topics, in a supportive and non-judgmental context. Parents are welcome to join in that conversation as well, but the default course should not be to keep these topics "walled off" in a way requiring special permission to access. That makes it too easy to opt out of a conversation which is important to our individual students, and our larger society.

- Nate, Homer AK