

Taneeka Hansen

From: Marci Hawkins <asjsj@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 4:20 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Liz Vazquez; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Adam Wool
Subject: SB 89 - Thank you

Marci Hawkins

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April 6, 2016

Re: SB 89

Dear House Health and Social Services Committee Members:

Please do not pass SB 89. Regardless of your position on abortion, the bottom line is money. By passing this bill you will send a message to the school district that they are not competent enough to continue making decisions regarding our children's health and welfare. In addition, school districts would be required to spend money on a curriculum similar to the one provided by Planned Parenthood, including the money spent for training and materials. The school districts are already struggling to provide a quality education with a very limited budget and the State of Alaska is not going to offset the cost of revising the curriculum with additional funds.

Parents have always had the right to opt out or opt in when subjects they don't want to see their children taught. As a parent of five, two out of five children were homeschooled due to overcrowding and drugs, not sex education. There was even a point in time when children in other states would be pulled by social services because they didn't attend public school but were homeschooled. It was deemed as neglect. Alaska did not follow in other states' footsteps but made it an option for children to be homeschooled. It is still an option just

as private schools. Public school is just that – public. If a family is not happy with the curriculum then they have options such as homeschool, appealing to their local schools or school districts. This matter is only before the legislature because of Roe v. Wade and what has happened since.

Please don't pose this financial burden upon schools. This should be your first consideration. Ask yourselves, where will the money come from, what are the real costs, and what alternated curriculum will be chosen? In a time when we say we are “fiscal conservatives”, the passage of this bill will not be fiscally responsible. This should not be about abortion, that will be a lawsuit if we target one organization or certain individuals, this state can't afford more money being spent in the courts. Please consider the bottom of line of fiscal responsibility by not taking away more money from our children. Please do not pass this bill and others like it.

Thank you for your time and attention with regard to this matter.

Sincerely,

Marci Hawkins

Taneeka Hansen

From: Marjie Richards <marjierichards@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 2:55 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Liz Vazquez; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Adam Wool
Subject: SB 89

Categories: Taneeka

To the members of the House Health and Social Services Committee

My name is Marjie Richards. I have lived in the Fairbanks area for over 35 years. I am a Registered Nurse. I am on the board of the Resource Center for Parents and Children, which provides parent education and houses Stevie's Place, where we provide forensic interviews and medical exams in a child-friendly setting when there is reason to believe a child has been sexually abused. Having worked in the past with an OB/GYN provider, I can tell you first hand it would be better if no one had an unwanted pregnancy, got an STD, was sexually abused or needed an abortion ever again. But in order for young women and young men to make good choices in regards to their sexual health, they need education and resources from qualified professionals. (I would venture to say families do not provide the bulk of the education that young people need or hear.)

Alaska is a leader in sexual health ignorance since fewer than one quarter of Alaska secondary schools taught all of the recommended HIV, STD, and pregnancy prevention topics in the 2013-14 school year; *only students in three states had less access to this information*. Local communities and parents should have the right to invite trusted partners like Planned Parenthood into the classroom if they choose. Until the state steps up in providing medically accurate sexual health education to all students, communities will rely on Planned Parenthood to provide that information.

SB 89 goes too far in restricting medically accurate, evidence-based, nonjudgmental sexual health education, such as that provided by Planned Parenthood, to students in a state with an epidemic of sexually transmitted infections, as well as sexual abuse. The "opt-in" clause for parents will create an administrative nightmare for teachers and schools. There is already an "opt-out" option for parents who do not want their children to receive sexual health education in school.

This bill is obviously a politically motivated and legally questionable attempt to target Planned Parenthood at the expense of the health of Alaskan students. Our legislators should be focusing on improving students' health, not targeting providers of a legal and constitutionally protected service.

Thank you for your time and your service to Alaska.

Marjorie A. Richards
2046 Goldstream Road
PO Box 82064
Fairbanks, AK 99708

Taneeka Hansen

From: Samantha Savage <snsavage2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 8:45 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Liz Vazquez; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. David Talerico; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Adam Wool
Subject: Please Oppose SB 89

Thank you Chair and members of the committee,

My name is Samantha Savage and I live in House District 5. I am writing today to voice my opposition of SB 89.

I live in Fairbanks, I love everything about living in the interior including our cold. However I don't think the legislature understands the endemic rates of reproductive health issues that plague my region, and our state. In 2014 our rate of Chlamydia infection was 778 persons per 100,000 statewide, and 759 person 100,000 in the interior. It is estimated that 49% of women in Fairbanks have experienced intimate partner violence in their lifetime, and 4% of women in Fairbanks have experienced sexual violence in the last year.

I grew up in Wasilla, the area in which the bill sponsors are from and graduated from Colony High school in 2011. While I had sex education that I can say was medically accurate, it was not comprehensive and many of my questions were left unanswered.

This bill asserts that Planned Parenthood is in schools with sinister motives. To say that Planned Parenthood is indoctrinating children is completely false, and the only interest Planned Parenthood has is a long history of being committed to teaching comprehensive and medically accurate sex education so that all youth have the opportunity to make important health decisions for themselves, and this bill while not getting rid of sex education this bill put unreasonable barriers in front of students.

I am asking you to oppose this bill because it is not in the interest of students and the overall health of Alaska.

Thank you,
Samantha Savage
Fairbanks

Taneeka Hansen

From: DavidCindy Audet <3audets@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 7:48 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Cathy Munoz; Sen. Dennis Egan
Subject: SB 89

Hello ~

I am writing in opposition to SB 89, prohibiting education by Planned Parenthood in public schools.

The education services of this organization has, in my opinion, never harmed anyone (or led to abortions), and it has helped many.

Thank you,

Cindy Audet
Juneau, AK

Taneeka Hansen

From: Ronni Sullivan <ronni@gci.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 12:39 PM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton; Rep. Liz Vazquez; Rep. Neal Foster; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep.David.Telerico@akleg.gov; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Adam Wool
Subject: Vote No on SB 89 and HB 352

Categories: Susie

I am writing in opposition to SB 89 and HB 352.

We must educate our kids about their bodies, sex, disease, safety, as well as healthy and unhealthy choices. We need to stand up for them, and give them real information, about real issues. That's what public education is supposed to be doing....teaching. I don't understand how the legislature can even be considering bills like these, which clearly move us in the opposite direction. We don't live in the dark ages anymore.

This bill, and HB 352 as well, are not about education at all. They are playing political football with the well being of our children. Please stop them.

I hope you will vote against SB 89 and HB 352 at every possible opportunity.

Thank you.

Ronni Sullivan

Chugiak, AK

Taneeka Hansen

From: H Unruh <unruh5832@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 06, 2016 11:43 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Cc: Rep. Sam Kito
Subject: RE: SB 89

Categories: Taneeka

Hello Representative Seaton,

I'm writing in opposition to SB 89.

Planned Parenthood is a concerned, responsible, experienced organization. They provide valuable, factual information and help to those who may have no where else to go.

People who believe not teaching children the "facts" about reproduction, STDs, and contraception. Who believe "abstinence" works are naive. People see/hear sex in everything ---TV ads & shows, music words/videos, cartoons, video games.... very young boys & girls are asked "who is your boy/girl friend?", girls are given makeup and clothing that is "hot", "sexy".... then told to abstain... what a contradiction! . With hormones raging, pressure on all fronts to be sexual, and little reliable, practical information.... it is no wonder we have one of the highest teen pregnancy & STD rates.

People, young & old, need factual information upon which they can base their decisions. Just telling someone not to do something is ineffective, irresponsible, and dangerous. Facts & consequences need to be known to make good decisions. We need to trust young people to make the right decision based on facts not conflicting, vague information.

Many of our youth, may not feel comfortable talking to a parent (especially one whose only answer is abstinence) about their sexuality. Planned Parenthood is not there to promote sex (that's done on TV, etc), they give information and encourage young people to wait till they mature enough to handle possible consequences.

Thank you!

Helen Unruh