



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
STATE LEGISLATURE

Rep. Lynn Gattis

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House Finance Committee

Education Finance Subcommittee Chair
Administration Finance Subcommittee Chair

Sponsor Statement for HB 352

The purpose of House Bill 352 is to restrict the access of abortion services providers and their affiliates to public schools.

Public education is constitutionally mandated by the State of Alaska. Many parents believe the role of public schools should be to provide: skills, knowledge, complex instruction, and a forum for students to better understand their role in society. However, few believe schools should create a captive audience of children for indoctrination by an outside group. At times, these presentations contain lessons which are at odds with the values of the children and their families.

Many have become so alarmed at what is occurring within the public school system that parents are withdrawing their children from neighborhood schools in record numbers. These students are placed in alternative settings (homeschools, charter schools and private schools) where the values of the family can be protected from outside special interest groups with an agenda. We simply cannot and should not ignore this trend. It is critical that we reexamine the practice of allowing special interest groups into the classroom.

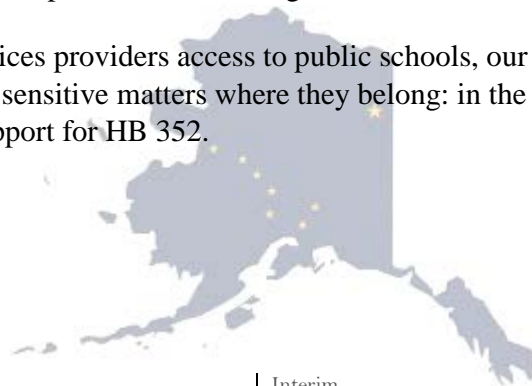
What House Bill 352 Does:

- Prohibits all distribution and display of materials, presentations, and instruction by an abortion services provider, affiliate, or representative in public schools
- Establishes penalties, imposed by the State Medical Board, on abortion services providers, affiliates, employees, or representatives of an abortion services provider, teachers, or school board members who knowingly violate the prohibitions

What House Bill 352 Doesn't Do:

- Does nothing to hinder school teachers from providing district approved sex education to students in a classroom
- Will not prevent abortion service providers or affiliates from providing information and education outside of the public school setting

By prohibiting abortion services providers access to public schools, our schools can focus on what is important and leave private, sensitive matters where they belong: in the hands of parents. I respectfully request your support for HB 352.



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