From: annie williams <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:40 PM

To: House Education

Subject: HB105

Madame Chair and members of the committee
My name is Annie Williams. I am from Homer and I am representing myself and my family

I strongly oppose HB105

This bill will onerously increase and expand the tasks asked already of our committed but overworked and underpaid teachers and administrative staff. It will subject them to more legal liability than they already endure, consequently and discouragingly, impacting the quality and depth of what they teach.

More importantly, this bill will make it more difficult for students to receive an education that supports the plurality of the human spectrum by denying them a safe and familiar place to express personal freedom. To require written consent from all in order to protect the children of a few is a thinly disguised guarantee to prevent many kids from receiving the education they need. A public school is a landmark of non-bias, a safe place for all kids to explore their potential and to have a voice. Please do not take that away.

Personally, this bill has the potential of uprooting my daughter, a leader in promoting sustainable aquaculture in Alaska, and her wife, an engineer specializing in sustainable energy for Alaska, because they fear the repressive, future climate in education for their yet to be born son. I loss for me but a greater one for Alaska's future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sent from Mail for Windows

From: Sara Marie Caldwell-Kan <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:41 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** Oppose hb 105

I firmly oppose hb 105. This is a harmful bill that threatens the safety of so many Alaskan youth. Our state has so many hateful, and right now emboldened and violent individuals towards our LGBTQIA2S+ community that this bill increases violence and harm towards our youth. This is an atrocious bill.

Sincerely, Sara Caldwell-Kan Anchorage resident

--

Sara Marie Caldwell-Kan

Hannah Hill < From:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:41 PM Sent:

House Education To: Oppose HB 105 Subject:

Hello House Education Committee & thank you for you time in this matter -

My family moved here from Texas when I was a child & I attended public school in Fairbanks from 4th grade on. My testimony is on my own behalf as a queer, nonbinary Alaskan who is grieved to have to testify about this matter at all. I oppose HB 105 & urge you to do the same.

Alaska's children need protection & that means treating them as whole people - not forcing manufactured fears on them or their bodies. When I was young & in school, we didn't have GSAs. I didn't have "out" teachers. In high school, there wasn't sexual health education that included queer bodies or taught about consent or what to do when consent is violated. I was routinely bullied for being visibly queer in violent ways. While I have a loving family, my queer peers who were less lucky suffered serious abuse at the hands of their own families. Some became homeless. Some committed suicide. They did not feel loved or safe anywhere in their lives. This is what HB 105 will make policy in our schools.

The kids who are in danger right now are the ones who are already oppressed. Research proves that LGBTQ+ children who are not protected by the adults in their lives are at higher risk for sexual assault, physical assualt & mental health issues. It's not because they're queer, it's because they're persecuted for being LGBTO+.

HB 105 will only exacerbate issues that are already harming Alaskan kids at alarming, epidemic rates. We have a choice right now to build a better Alaska - one that is equitable, inquisitive & safer. We can build an Alaska that loves its children. All of them. Just the way they are.

Thank you for your time, -Hannah C. Hill Fairbanks, Alaska

> "Love is an act of will, both an action & an intention." -bell hooks

From: on behalf of Michelle Gavel

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:51 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.

Hello,

I was unable to call in for the testimony period on 3/30 because I was working, so I am emailing instead.

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, Miss Michelle Gavel

rom:		on behalf	of Jesse	Schnabe
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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:52 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.

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jesse Schnabel

Elliasey causei	
From: Sent: To: Subject:	A M < The state of
House Education Committee,	

I am a lifelong resident of Alaska. I attended public school on Kodiak Island. I am writing to express my opposition to HB105.

I watched and listened to testimony today and agree with the many who voiced their opposition to this bill. This bill is quite obviously born of a harmful political agenda, hidden under the guise of "parental rights". We all would like to think that parents are supportive, loving presences in their children's lives, but that is not always the case. LGBTQ children are particularly vulnerable. School may be one of the only places where they feel safe to be themselves. Policing children's gender identity is vile and will have real consequences for children who do not live in safe homes.

Sex education is already limited in Alaska and in some cases nonexistent. We should be expanding sex education, not limiting it. As other individuals have testified, sex education is necessary to help children make informed choices about their bodies as well to identify harm if it occurs. As you know, Alaska in particular has extremely high rates of sexual assault and abuse.

HB105 is abhorrent and should be tossed out.

Thank you for your time,

Anna Miller

Kodiak, Alaska

From:	on behalf of Maiya	on behalf of Maiya Johnson		
	<			
Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:55 PM			
To:	House Education			
Subject:	Please Pass HB 99/SB108: LGBTQ+ Equality and Oppose H	B 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,

Ms. Maiya Johnson

From:	on behalf of colby Perez <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 7:03 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. colby Perez

From:

Kristen Dutson <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 7:20 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Oppose House bill 105

Hello, thank you for your time.

My name Is Kristen Dutson, and I oppose House bill 105.

I am writing to tell you that Igbtq+ Alaskan youth will commit suicide if you pass House bill 105. This will have a direct impact on the lives of trans youth.

These kids deserve to live in a state that doesn't forcibly out and expose them and put them in danger at home and at school.

This bill is unnecessary and an Invasion of privacy for trans Alaskan youth, and is clearly rooted in the anti-trans agenda.

House bill 105 is an attack on trans youth and we will not stand for it. LGBTQ Alaskans will rise up to oppose this bill and stand by our youth.

Please, Do NOT pass House bill 105.

Thank you

-Kristen Dutson

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From:	on behalf of Curtis Evans <	

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 7:13 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.

I want you to think about what side of history you'll be on if this passes. The people that opposed women's rights, the people that voted in favor of segregation, or any other example of human rights violations; that's how the next generation will see you. I can promise you that, because that's already how THIS generation perceives you. Show us that you're really the party of "small government", and stop overreaching into people's lives! Alaskans have every right to be themselves!!

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Mr. Curtis Evans

From: Lori Crupi <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:48 PM

To: House Education

Cc: Rep. Andi Story; Rep. Sara Hannan; Sen. Jesse Kiehl

Subject: HB105

Hello Esteemed Representatives,

Thank you for your interest in education, all the work that you do for the State of Alaska, and thank you for hearing my testimony.

I am writing in opposition to HB 105, the sex/reproduction education bill. There are many parts of this bill that are too loosely defined to be effective, and policy that is dangerous to vulnerable students. Since 1994 I have been a school psychologist and have served students ages 3-21 and their families. I am also the parent of two teenagers who attend Juneau schools.

First of all, I am always in favor of parental involvement and consistent parent-school communication. I am in favor of districts notifying parents prior to teaching a sex education class. I am not in favor of the requirement that parents provide written permission in order for their student to participate. It can be very difficult to get permission slips back for fieldtrips, etc, and requiring that teachers gain permission for instruction seems like one more thing for teachers to keep track of. If parents do not want their children to be part of a discussion, they can let teachers know and choose to opt their student out.

I am opposed to the stipulation that there can be no class or program involving sex ed or human reproduction for students below 4th grade. All content should be developmentally appropriate. But some students begin to enter puberty in elementary school, and saying "no class or program" makes the subject taboo and doesn't allow for naturally occurring questions. Also, "class or program" is too loosely defined to be effective.

In my work in secondary schools, I am finding many students who are choosing to use the they/them pronoun as they navigate peer relationships and develop as people. While this didn't happen when I was young, after meeting many students who prefer to use they/them, it doesn't seem particularly scary. I respect a student's right to make decisions regarding their names and pronouns. If a student asks to come speak with me, it's important that I show that respect in order to establish trust and offer support. We use preferred nicknames all the time when we refer to people if that's what they like to go by.

HB105 amounts to government overreach by presuming to define a person's gender for them. This is not an area in which the State needs to be stepping. There should be no opportunities for parents to file civil action against school personnel who refer to a student by their preferred name or pronoun. We need more respect and education, not less.

Thank you for your time and for hearing my comments.

Very Respectfully,



From: amy gallaway <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:49 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** Opposition to HB105

Dear Representatives Ruffridge, Allard and Committee Members,

My name is Amy Gallaway, and I am a teacher in Fairbanks. I have lived in Fairbanks for over 25 years, and have always been proud that we here in the interior put people first and do the right thing even when the nation is spiraling out. That is part of why I am so staunchly opposed to HB 105 authored by Governor Dunleavy; it seeks to bring unnecessary and divisive culture war issues to our state and our community at the expense of our most vulnerable students. We have so many pressing educational issues such as school funding, increasing student achievement, and addressing the teacher shortage crisis, that this bill is at best a distraction. However, at its worst, it is an attack on the humanity and the First Amendment rights of LGBT students. The Equal Access Act of 1984 forbids public schools from receiving federal funds if they deny students the First Amendment right to conduct meetings because of the "religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech" at such meetings. Court precedent holds that states and districts may not single out GSAs for parental permission requirements. The Equal Access Act requires that such rules be applied equally to all student groups. Therefore, this law requiring parental permission only for programs (clubs) that talk about "gender identity" violates the Equal Access Act.

In addition to First Amendment violations, this bill is a logistical nightmare. Currently, schools do not track students' pronouns. The bill requires parental permission to "change" them yet there is nowhere they are listed to begin with. So will districts now have to go through and track students' pronouns? I do not think we need the government empowered in this way. Additionally, needing parental permission before talking about gender identity will render most classrooms a bureaucracy of permission slips. Gender identity is not sex, it is identity. I am a woman, a wife, and a stepmother—that is my gender identity. Abigail Adams was a wife and First Lady and carried weight as a woman in the 1800s. That is her gender identity. If I wanted to do a lesson on the role of First Ladies in the 1800s, I would have to get parental permission. This is just illogical and an example of poor legislation crafted to address a solution for a problem that does not truly exist.

Finally, this bill is harmful to some of our most vulnerable students, while not tangibly protecting parents' rights. Parents can and should know what their students are learning about at school and should be actively engaged in their students' education. Schools do not keep anything secret- our curriculum is publicly available, most teachers use a digital LMS that parents can access through their students, and as teachers, we willingly (and are required to upon request) share any lesson plan or materials we use in class. Parents just need to talk to their own children and stop asking schools to do their parenting for them. When this bill was announced last week, I had a number of students in my room at lunch crying. They feel under attack. They feel marginalized. They feel sexualized by the adults who don't understand them and are supposed to protect them. I encourage you to talk to LGBT youth to understand the devastating impact just the discussion of this bill has on students' mental health. The

President of West Valley High School's GSA, Zoe Foshee, recently <u>published a community</u> <u>perspective.</u> I hope you read it and listen to her point of view.

Thank you for doing the hard work of citizen legislators-- it is hard to be a statesman instead of a politician.

--

Amy Gallaway Alaska 2020 Teacher of the Year Civics Teacher, West Valley High School Fairbanks, Alaska

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:54 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. Glen Lopez

on behalf of Janet Engle	From: on behalf of Jane	t Enale
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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:55 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.

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mrs Janet Engle

From:

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:06 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Testimony for HB 105 Madison Heckart

Goodevening, my name is Madison Heckart, I represent myself, I'm from anchorage and I am writing in to oppose house bill 105. I have lived in Alaska all my life, I am currently a junior in high school, and I am transgender. This proposal directly threatens me and many of my peers, abilities to learn safely and comfortably. It is not my parent's right to dictate my identity, I am not an object in my parent's possession, I am a person who deserves autonomy no matter my age. I have gone by a nickname all my life and I see no reason why my parents should have a say in how I address myself seeing as it is not their name, I am appalled that our government believes it is their job to dictate how I would like myself to be addressed in the classroom. Beyond that, I deserve a say in the decision to share my school records. I deserve comprehensive, appropriate, education about sex and gender separate from my parents. Because in a state with such a high rate of sexual assault that is a vital tool we all deserve.

I have watched as proposals such as these have hurt me and my peers, they make it nearly impossible to go about our lives in a productive way. Most of my trans peers are afraid to use any of the bathrooms at school in the first place because of the violence that proposals such as these bring about. Transgender people are not the threat they are painted to be, we are people, children, that this proposal actively harms, and I encourage you to please oppose house bill 105

Thank you,

From: Will Kronick <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:10 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** No on HB 105

Dear House Education Committee,

I write to you as a concerned social worker, citizen and uncle. This measure is damaging to our children and signals to those that may be LGBT that they are not safe and don't matter. Parents have rights and responsibilities. If they are concerned, I would suggest they volunteer or talk to their children's teacher. Thank you for your work.

Will Kronick Juneau

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jackie and Edward Debevec <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:12 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Oppose HB 105 and SB 96 testimony

March 30, 2023

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to urge you to vote against any proposed bill that would put LGBTQ+ students at risk, including HB 105/SB 96, the so-called "Parental Rights in Education" bill proposed by Governor Dunleavy.

In 9th grade, Fr. Leony said something to my youth group that rocked me to my core. He said, "God doesn't make junk. You are sacred to Him. He loves you unconditionally. To respect God, He asks you to love yourself (warts and all- at the time, probably acne) and in turn, love everyone, unconditionally." These statements changed my life. Who was I to deny that sense of peace and love to anyone else I came in contact with? This became my guiding principle when working with students, parents, administrators, and community members. All people regardless of their gender, color of hair, color of skin, body size, sexual identity or preference, and their physical/mental/emotional abilities deserve to be treated with love, respect, and dignity. We may disagree with someone's choices or decisions, but fundamentally who they are, deep down, are sacred beings. To that end, all students should feel safe in school, disclosing to counselors/teachers/administrators any sexual, emotional, or physical abuse or bullying going on at home or school. And these school counselors/teachers/administrators should not be sued for keeping those children safe or choosing not to disclose what is said in confidence. Of course, these adults are mandated reporters, which is fine. But when children can't feel safe disclosing in school what can't be safely disclosed at home, I know and fear this can lead to increased anxiety, depression, suicide, and/or other lethal means of harm to others.

I encourage you to remember that all students are precious and should have the opportunity to succeed and grow into caring citizens, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Please vote against HB 105/SB 96. I also encourage you to support HB 99, which would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, or expression across our state.

Sincerely, Jacqueline Debevec Fairbanks, Alaska

From:

on behalf of Michael DeLue

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:14 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Support 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. Protections are being chipped away nation-wide and we should stand against this rash of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in Alaska.

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. Michael DeLue

From: Rachel Boesenberg <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:15 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** I oppose HB105

My name is Rachel Boesenberg. I am writing to you from Anchorage to express my opposition to House Bill 105. I write in solidarity with LGBTQ+ adults and youth across the state. Schoolchildren should feel safe and comfortable approaching educators they trust. knowing that their conversation about gender identity is confidential. I oppose HB105 and strongly urge that the House Education Committee **not** pass HB105.

Sincerely,

Rachel Boesenberg

Born and raised in Anchorage, and a graduate of the Anchorage School District

From: Stephen Jolley <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 6:27 PM

To: House Education

Subject: HB 105 Public Statement

Greetings,

I am writing today in firm opposition to HB 105. I consider this proposition to be anti-American in spirit. The only insidious force at play in our culture to influence people from following who they believe they should be are the proponents of this bill. If we are to take "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" as general guiding principles of this country, it takes no stretch of the imagination to see HB 105 as an imposition, couched in the rhetoric of protecting families. If this is the case, I must ask: whose? And whom among these families, even those whose patriarchs take exception to the question of budding conceptions of gender are not individuals, entitled to make their own way and determine their own fate regardless of the wishes of their kin?

This is clearly an attempt to establish morality law in a country that should reject such a concept outright as antithetical to its founding and thoroughgoing principles.

Vote no on HB 105. Leave these folks alone.

Stephen Jolley Anchorage Resident

From:		on behalf of Whitne	y Wood
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Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:12 PM Sent:

House Education To:

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,

Dr. Whitney Wood

From: Charles Lowell <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:07 PM

To: House Education

Subject: HB 105

I strongly oppose HB 105. As a queer Alaskan, this bill will harm queer Alaskan youth. It is appalling to me that an elected official would spend time and energy to actively endanger children.

Charlie

From: Jovell R. <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:18 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Testimony

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 not rooted in protection of youth, or enriching youth education. It is not conducive to producing an environment that our children will want to live and grow in. This bill will cause lasting damage to communities across Alaska.

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

Thank you for your time.

Jovell R.

From:

Beth Short-Rhoads <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:19 PM

To: Subject: House Education Reject HB 105

Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

Please reject the deeply flawed House Bill 105. Not only would this bill promote discrimination and erode civil rights, it would also prevent crucial health information from reaching Alaska's teens.

Thank you for your service,

Beth Short-Rhoads Sitka

From:	Nic Dwyer <	>
Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:22 PM	

To: Education

Subject: Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 105

Dear Representatives,

My name is Nic Dwyer, I am a resident of Juneau. I am writing this email in opposition of House Bill 105. This bill would allow LGBTQ+, particularly gender non-conforming and trans students to be outed to their parents without their consent.

I can say with certainty that being outed to a parent when someone is not ready is dangerous, and will cause years of damage to whoever this happens to. I can say this because it happened to me. When I was 12 years old, I found an adult that I trusted in my after school program, and I told them that I thought I was queer. They were very supportive, and made me feel like I was accepted for who I am. About a month later my dad found out, he confronted me when I was not ready to talk about it. I felt ambushed, ashamed, and like I never wanted to talk with another person about being queer ever again. This experience has stayed with me into adulthood. I have a very hard time trusting anyone with personal information around my sexuality or gender regardless if they have been vocally supportive of LGBTQ+ people. It instilled a lifelong fear of being outed and ostracised by people that I love.

I worked at Juneau School District as a Paraeducator for two years, and I loved it. During this time I also began to realize that I am not cisgender. As those feelings kept coming up more and more, I realized that I still had that deep seeded fear of being outed and accused of being a negative influence on children. The transphobic rhetoric and legislation across this country has only fed this fear of mine. I told myself if I wanted to be my true self, I would not be able to work with students without constant anxiety or fear, so I quit. I stopped doing a job that I was great at, and the school district lost a valuable staff member.

This house bill reinforces those ideas, for students, for staff members, and the LGBTQ+ community as a whole. Please do not allow this bill to pass.

Sincerely,

Nic Dwyer

From:	on behalf of Maren Miller
	,

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:31 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.

A recent study shows that 45% of LGBTQ+ youth considered suicide in the last year. Nearly 1 in 5 Transgender and nonbinary youth attempted suicide. Fewer than 1 in 3 transgender and nonbinary youth feel that they and their gender are supported at home. Where LGBTQ+ youth did feel high support at home, the rates of attempted suicide was less than half of the rate where homes were less supporting. Not all homes are safe, particularly for LGBTQ+ students. And children deserve to be safe and should be supported by their schools rather than be put in danger, which is what this bill does.

Governor Dunleavy's HB 105/SB96 is an attack on LGBTQ+ youth and will 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,

Ms. Maren Miller

From: on behalf of Jessica Thornton

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:32 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.

I tried calling in to testify today, but was unable to get connected, so I am sending in my comments in opposition to HB 105.

My name is Jessica Thornton, I am an artist and community organizer living in the Butte just outside of Palmer, and I am calling in today to testify against HB105.

I live in a small community, like many Alaskans do. For LGBTQ+ youth, living in small towns can be challenging as it is and for many, schools are the only safe place that they have. This bill would make our schools dangerous places for our LGBTQ+ students. If passed, this bill would forcibly out LGBTQ+ youth to their parents, this bill directly targets transgender students by forcing them to use a bathroom that doesn't match their gender identity and it would allow parents access to a student's counseling records without their child's consent, among many other harmful impacts. Please realize, I'm not exaggerating when I say that these kinds of policies endanger the lives of LGBTQ+ children, many of whom do not have the support or safety at home that they need. All kids deserve to be safe at school, all kids deserve their privacy and health to be protected.

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely, Ms Jessica Thornton

From: Erika Burr < > > Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:38 PM

To:House EducationSubject:Opposing HB 105

I am writing in strong opposition to HB 105. It is overly **restrictive** of teachers and school health programs that exist for childrens' safety, is **dismissive** of the basic knowledge each person needs to maintain and advocate for their **health**, and it **runs counter to our goals** to decrease the (unacceptably high) rates of sexually-transmitted infections and domestic violence in Alaska.

HB 105 would put **too great a burden** on schools and teachers to obtain written permission for student participation in essential content. It is not reasonable to expect that even the majority of parents who support lessons that address the topics sex education, human reproduction, or human sexuality would actually submit permission forms in a timely manner. (Parents do have the right to "opt-out" at their discretion. That is sufficient.)

Sex education is a question of **safety, respect, and public health**. To support our young people in **choosing respect** for themselves and each other, **they need to know** how their bodies work, what is normal for male and female bodies, and how to talk about their experiences and their concerns. These conversations need to be able to happen at school, facilitated by skilled, knowledgeable teachers.

As a **woman** and a parent, I am **scared** about the implications of this bill and the thinking behind it. We need open, respectful conversations that encourage our students to be curious about, **not judgemental or ashamed** of, healthy growth and development of their bodies and their relationships. It is scary not to know what is happening with your body. (Please note that **4th grade is too late** to start discussions of puberty for the many girls who will begin menstruation by **age 9**.) It is important to know what is **normal** and what calls for medical attention. It is critically important that our youth to have the vocabulary and an understanding of healthy sexual interactions so that they have the ability to recognize and **fight to stop sexual abuse** when they are victims or witnesses. We owe our children and our communities this - especially the children who would not receive factual, respectful treatment of human biology outside of school.

Please stop this dangerous bill in its tracks.

Erika Burr

Sent:

From:	on behalf of Suzanne Tweedy
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Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:37 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,

Ms. Suzanne Tweedy

From: Claire Lubke <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:42 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** In opposition to HB105

Dear Members of the Education Committee, I was unable to connect during the HB105 hearing this evening, so please consider the testimony I intended to share:

My name is Claire lubke; I live in Genevieve Mina's district in Anchorage.

I was educated in the Anchorage School District by many wonderful teachers and I hope to honor them with my testimony today.

I want to take a moment to extend compassion to the legislators that are struggling to understand a girl who feels they are a boy or a boy who feels they are a girl. Our cultural conditioning certainly makes this hard to understand.

However, I urge you to be accountable and recognize that you cause real harm when you deny that transgender and gender non-binary people do exist. These are our friends and siblings and parents and children and they face terrifying rates of violence and discrimination.

HB 105 continues to normalize the stigma and ostracism that blossoms into the acts of hatred that trans-people regularly face in our country.

If you think that the decision to embody the trans-identity is an adult decision, I understand that concern, but to claim that this legislation protects children and families, that is deeply misguided. What is being branded as "parental rights" will only create more barriers and unnecessary hardship for the most vulnerable children, those who are already navigating the foster care system, domestic abuse, negligence, and/or bullying.

I'll make a brief note on the topic of sex ed prior to the fourth grade, which my mom taught as a school nurse while I was growing up. She taught children what their "private parts" were and informed them that no one should touch them, but that they could come talk to her if someone did. In a State with such high rates of sexual abuse, this legislation's attempt to deny children access to preventative and protective information is disturbing to me.

As the leaders of our State, I ask that you please oppose HB 105, get out of these performative culture wars, and focus on real governance instead.

Thank you to the committee for their time.

From:

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:19 PM

To: Cc: Education

Subject:

opposition to HB 105

Caroline Brown

I'm writing this letter in strong opposition to HB 105.

I am a mother of 3 kids, 2 of whom are still in the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. My 2 boys began their education in preschool in Fairbanks and are now in middle school; my daughter graduated from West Valley High School; as a result, I have direct and significant experience with all levels of schools in Fairbanks. I'd like to start my letter acknowledging that the FNSBSD teachers are top rate; I have interacted with countless teachers throughout my kids' education and all have treated my kids and me with respect and professionalism. I have encountered **zero** difficulty forging positive, professional relationships with them in the mutual support of my children.

HB 105 is a "solution" without a problem. The "rights" it purports to guarantee parents are already available. Parents can already become involved in curriculum development, easily gain access online and in person to materials in the school libraries and/or question a book through the existing library policy. Parents can already opt out of sex education classes; I have personally addressed these issues with my kids' schools. However, what this bill does allow is the targeting of an already vulnerable population and I'm appalled that adults are engaged in this.

In addition to targeting kids themselves, I'm concerned that these draconian efforts will shape a school environment built on fear, lack of trust, and close-mindedness. That is not the school I want for my children.

Respectfully, Caroline Brown Fairbanks

From:

PeggyEllen Kleinleder <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:56 PM

To:

House Education; Rep. Sarah Vance; Sen. Gary Stevens

Subject:

HB 105/SB 96

Dear legislators,

I am writing to ask you to vote against any bills that would put LGBTQ+ students at risk, including HB 105/SB 96.

As a parent, grandparent, child advocate, nurse (including my years as a school nurse), and lifelong Alaskan, I am keenly aware of the increased risks and struggles for children and youth who do not fit in. Reinforcing a narrow white conservative Christian heterosexual model of what is "normal" through laws such as those proposed by HB 105/SV96 is likely to add to the distress of those most vulnerable.

Alaska has one of the highest child sexual abuse rates in the nation. LGBTQ+ are at higher than average risk for abuse.

Educators and parents need to be able to talk openly to each other and to young people about how to keep all children safe from predators. For healthy sexuality to be the norm, our focus must be on respect, caring and consent. Enforced secrecy, fear, and labeling will lead to increased rates of child sexual abuse. In our State, especially, we cannot afford that!

Legislating and forcing the values of one religious group onto all the diverse peoples of Alaska is harmful to everyone. It reminds me of the historical practice of forcing Christian beliefs and values onto the indigenous Alaskans. The resulting destruction of their beliefs, languages and cultures left a legacy of historical trauma with associated mental distress, abuse, homicide and other horrors.

For the sake of all of our children, let us not repeat the mistakes of our ancestors.

Sincerely,

PeggyEllen Kleinleder, RN

Homer, AK 99603

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From:	on behalf of Rebecca McKissick		
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Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2023	3 4:55 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,

Mrs. Rebecca McKissick

From:	n behalf of Jenny Miller
	,

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:49 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.

Hello,

I am writing to you as a concerned Indigenous Alaskan, Inupiaq, and someone who is part of the LGBTQ2+ community.

I am writing to oppose HB 105. It is an attack on LGBTQ2+ youth. LGBTQ2+ youth deserve respect, support, and the right to be who they are.

I was raised with Inupiaq values. Some that come to mind today are respect, honor, love, reciprocity, and to look out for those in my community and beyond. I was also raised to consider how my decisions today will impact those of tomorrow and the future.

HB 105 is dangerous. It will require teachers and administrators to forcibly out LGBTQ2+ students. Outing students before they are ready to share their personal identities with family or those who they live with is wrong and dangerous. Not every child has a supportive family. LGBTQ2+ children are kicked out of their homes just for being who they are, and suffer from bullying, and self-harm. LGBTQ2+ Alaskan youth deserve to come out when they know is best and when they know is safe for them. Having a safe person in my life to who I was able to come out to when I was young meant the world to me. Having the support of close friends and adults helped me survive in a place where I was not wanted to exist.

Everyone deserves to have someone safe they can come out to as well. Teachers can be that safe person for LGBTQ2+ youth to reach out to and that is why HB 105 should not pass. This bill is an attack on trans youth, some of our most vulnerable community members. Everyone should have the chance to succeed and be supported for who they are. Trans children matter. Trans adults matter. LGBTQ2+ youth matter. We need to show them that they matter and who they are is a gift and not something that is wrong. We can do this by opposing HB 105.

With this in mind, I support HB 99/SB 108. As someone whose Inupiaq family roots date back to thousands of years on these lands now known as Alaska, I support LGBTQ2+ equality. I want to live in my home state and feel safe in my home as a queer Inupiaq and Alaskan. We all need to live with values of respect for others, honor who we are and who LGBT2+ youth are, guide our decisions with love and not fear of those who are LGBTQ2+, and reciprocity. The future generations of LGBTQ2+ youth depend on us to make this world a better place for them. And today we can start by opposing HB 105 and passing HB 99/SB 108 because LGBTQ2+ people deserve equality.

Thank you for your time,

Jenny Irene Miller

Sincerely, Mx. Jenny Miller

From: Val Kissel <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:45 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Public Testimony on HB 105

Hello House Education Committee,

I'm a constituent in Juneau—born and raised here. I'm writing to share my opposition to HB105 bill which I find not only to be a red herring of legislative focus but also a part of a coordinated, harmful campaign targeting LGBTQIA--especially trans-- students, teachers, parents, and community. This bill would effectively censor discussion about LGBTQIA people in schools under the guise of parental rights. It also forces schools to "out" transgender students without their consent-endangering the one safe place some students may have and risking their safety at both home and school. Instead, I ask that you devote energy to push for equal human rights protections for all Alaskans: the lives of LGBTQIA people—who have been here and will always be here—depend on your action against attempts at eroding and eradicating our rights and very existence.

Kindly, Valorie Kissel

rom:		on behalf of	Tyson Houbi	regs
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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:42 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. Tyson Houbregs

From: Joan Franz <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:59 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Full Opposition of HB 105

Dear Chairman and House Education Committee Members:

I am a Fairbanks resident and a member of the Fairbanks FACES FAS diagnostic team. Rarely do I read a medical chart that does not have one or both birth parents having experienced violence and/or sexual abuse in their lives and most of the children have been exposed to domestic violence in their homes and often sexual assault is also reported.

I am in complete opposition of this poorly considered bill, targeting LGBTQ+ children who are are already vulnerable and increasing their risk of harassment, bullying, assault and suicide. As a state we are shamefully number one in domestic violence and sexual assault of children and adults. Please focus your energy on protecting children and adults from violence and assault rather than setting many children up for attacks if their parents are the perpetrators. An unintended consequence is: If abuse is happening in the home, children need to know what is considered abuse and who they can safely report the abuse to well before the age of 4th grade. A dysfunctional home/parent is not going to allow their children to attend an educational class nor open up the possibility of their child reporting what is happening to them. I ask you to create bills to protect children and begin to address our shameful rate of child sexual assault.

All LGBTQ+ youth deserve respect for who they are as they explore their feelings about themselves and navigate the long road from childhood to becoming an adult. They deserve respect and a sense that they are valued members of our community. HB 105 is a bill that will only increase their feelings of isolation, depression, anxiety and suicidal ideation that research has shown to be extremely high for the LGBQT+ youth. Your job as legislators is to create policies and practices that promote justice and safety for all children.

I do support HB 99, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Respectfully, Joan Franz Fairbanks, Alaska

From:

Gus D <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:56 PM

To: Subject: House Education
House Bill 105

Hello,

My name is Gus Dixon and I'm writing in opposition of House Bill 105. This bill is nothing short of a bigoted target on LGBT+ youth in Alaska.

Proponents of this Bill tout safety of children and parental rights. What about youth rights? Though I am straight, I have many friends who identify as LGBT, and grew up in unsupportive homes. Parents, nor anyones has the right to know someone's sexual orientation or gender identity without their consent. Furthermore, outing children and segregating them based on their gender identity can lead to harassment and bullying in classrooms, and this could be furthered by the lack of sex education that our youth get. I would like our youth to get the education that I did not.

Simply put, our LGBT+ youth are valid and loved in our state and this harmful Bill does nothing except target them. To quote Utah republican governor Spencer Cox when vetoing a similar bill; "Rarely has so much fear and anger been directed at so few. I don't understand what they are going through or why they feel the way they do. But I want them to live." I also want them to live. The rhetoric in this bill leads to suicides. Not in my state.

Thank you,

Gus Dixon Midtown Anchorage

From: Katlian Stark <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:14 PM

To: House Education

Subject: AK doesn't want HB 105/SB 96, Protect our LGBT+ Kids!

Dear House Education Committee,

My name is Kat Stark, I live in Fairbanks, Alaska, and I am writing to urge you to vote against any proposed bill that would put LGBTQ+ students at risk, including HB 105/SB 96, the so called "Parental Rights in Education" bill proposed by Governor Dunleavy. Research has consistently shown that LGBTQ+ youth experience higher rates of mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. As you know, LGBTQ+ youth are some of the most vulnerable members of our society, and they face unique challenges and barriers to success that can be exacerbated by discrimination and stigma.

Unfortunately, bills that limit the rights and protections of LGBTQ+ students, including those related to school policies and bathroom/locker access across our country have been proposed and passed. In Alaska, these bills would send a harmful message to LGBTQ+ youth that they are not valued or accepted in our communities, and they would put their health, safety, and well-being at risk.

Discrimination and stigma can exacerbate these issues and create additional barriers to success, including lower academic achievement, higher absenteeism, and social isolation.

As legislators, you have the power and responsibility to create policies and practices that promote equality, justice, and safety for all students, including those who identify as LGBTQ+. I urge you to use this power wisely and to vote against any bill that would put these students at risk.

Instead, I encourage you to support policies and practices that create safe and inclusive environments for all Alaskans, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This can involve adopting inclusive sex education requirements and anti-bullying policies that specifically address LGBTQ+ harassment, ensuring that school staff receive training on LGBTQ+ issues, and providing resources and support for LGBTQ+ students who may be struggling.

This also includes supporting legislation like HB 99, which would would work to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression across our state.

By taking these steps, we can help ensure that all students, and all Alaskans, have the opportunity to succeed and thrive, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

Kat Stark

Fairbanks, Alaska

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on behalf of Rachel Crosley

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 5:13 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,

Ms. Rachel Crosley

From:

Mollie Crittenden <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:16 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

Re: I Oppose HB 105

I am opposing HB105 and SUPPORT HB99. I didn't mean opposing both. Mollie Crittenden

Sent from my iPhone

- > On Mar 30, 2023, at 8:13 AM, Mollie Crittenden < crittenden 2501@icloud.com > wrote:
- > Our daughter fled her country last November.
- > Her 'country' was the United States. She is now a refugee in Australia. Not an immigrant. A refugee. We aren't a family anymore.
- > Why? Because her 'country' is slowly and methodically betraying her...just one of thousands of tax paying, hard working, contributing, law abiding citizens.
- > Why? Because a smaller band of her fellow citizens are trying to erase her.
- > Why? Because she is different than them.
- > So? Because they don't understand science and if they don't care enough to understand science she must be a threat and what do we do with threats? Eliminate. It's easier.
- > Why? This is what we, as parents, ask ourselves every day. Our daughter is a lovely, beautiful, compassionate human being that wouldn't hurt a flea.
- > She would rather contribute than hide. As do all TRANSGENDER women and men.
- > They are all asking the same question:
- > WHY?
- > We are urgently asking you to oppose HB 105 and 99. You can know you are giving back the right to live a life. Just like you enjoy.
- >
- > Mollie Crittenden
- > Mother of Aurora Alexander
- >
- > Sent from my iPhone

From:	on behalf of Sarah Lilly <
	>
Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:16 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, Miss Sarah Lilly

From:					£ C _ 1: _	Mckenzie <
From:			\sim	nenau o	a comm	IMERED ME <
1 1 0111.			U11	ochan o	1 001111	IVICICUIZIO

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:11 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.

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

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

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mr. Colin Mckenzie

From:

Autistic Anthony <

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:05 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

To Governor Dunleavy

I am emailing to tell you that Igbtq+ Alaskan youth will die and will commit suicide if you pass HB 105

Those youth belong here and deserve care that doesn't forcibly out and expose them and put them in danger. It is an attack on LGBTQ+ youth and we will not stand for it! Do NOT pass HB 105.

From: McKenna Slivensky <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:01 PM

To: House Education

Subject: HB 105

To all the members of the House Education Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 105. This bill comes off as an attack on LGBTQ+ youth. First of all, Alaskan parents already have the right to "opt out" of lessons they deem inappropriate, however misguided that belief may be. So if what our governor says is true about this bill not being discriminatory, why do we need it?

We don't. This bill isn't about parental rights, it's just another vessel for Dunleavy and other lawmakers' hatred.

Regardless of political affiliation, Alaskans have long prided themselves on being independent free-thinkers that buck political stereotypes. Many Alaskan politicians, including Dunleavy and many of the conservative lawmakers, love to talk about how the government should be smaller and have less oversight over people's daily lives. I would really like to understand how introducing legislation that specifically targets a group of people aligns with those goals.

Dunleavy and all of the lawmakers who support this bill are wasting time, money and other resources for their own personal agendas. In a state where we have a budget crisis and are losing our young people, this bill is pretty blatantly unwarranted and hateful.

I think the lawmakers supporting this bill are using it as a false flag, just a distraction from the rampant incompetence of the administration. It's political fodder and nothing else, but regardless of intention, we won't stand for it.

This bill is purposefully endangering an already-marginalized group of children. Children who may not be able to be themselves or get the guidance they need safely at home. Children should be able to go to school and get an education without fear of someone punishing them for their sexuality or pronouns.

If you support this bill, I want you to ask yourself why you hate LGBTQ+ people. I want you to ask yourself why you're even concerned with someone's gender. I want you, at least once, to wonder why someone else's identity offends you so badly that you would waste taxpayer dollars on putting your hate into law.

I grew up in Alaska and I love my state, but I am absolutely disgusted by the so-called "leadership" here. This bill can't and won't pass. Take your hate elsewhere, we don't want it.

McKenna Slivensky

From:	on behalf of Mason Koch <
	>
Sent:	Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:40 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. Mason Koch

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on behalf of Hannah Penney

Sent:

Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:36 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.

I am sincerely worried for a lot of people that I love in my life and I don't understand why we're passing bills to make peoples lives harder. It doesn't make sense. With the amount of population showing that this is how they feel, who are we to tell them how they should feel? Nobody likes having words put into their mouths but our young people, the future of this world, I am screaming for you to do something!

Sincerely, Miss my Hannah Penney

From: Jan Kuba Grzeda <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:28 PM

To: House Education

Subject: I urge you to oppose HB 105

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to urge you to vote against any proposed bill that would put LGBTQ+ students at risk, including HB 105/SB 96, the so called "Parental Rights in Education" bill proposed by Governor Dunleavy. As you know, LGBTQ+ youth are some of the most vulnerable members of our society, and they face unique challenges and barriers to success that can be exacerbated by discrimination and stigma.

Unfortunately, bills that limit the rights and protections of LGBTQ+ students, including those related to school policies and bathroom/locker access across our country have been proposed and passed. In Alaska, these bills would send a harmful message to LGBTQ+ youth that they are not valued or accepted in our communities, and they would put their health, safety, and well-being at risk.

Research has consistently shown that LGBTQ+ youth experience higher rates of mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. Discrimination and stigma can exacerbate these issues and create additional barriers to success, including lower academic achievement, higher absenteeism, and social isolation.

As legislators, you have the power and responsibility to create policies and practices that promote equality, justice, and safety for all students, including those who identify as LGBTQ+. I urge you to use this power wisely and to vote against any bill that would put these students at risk.

Instead, I encourage you to support policies and practices that create safe and inclusive environments for all Alaskans, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. This can involve adopting inclusive sex education requirements and anti-bullying policies that specifically address LGBTQ+ harassment, ensuring that school staff receive training on LGBTQ+ issues, and providing resources and support for LGBTQ+ students who may be struggling.

This also includes supporting legislation like HB 99, which would work to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity or expression across our state.

By taking these steps, we can help ensure that all students, and all Alaskans, have the opportunity to succeed and thrive, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Thank you for your attention to these important issues.

Thank you for your time,

Kuba Grzeda Fairbanks, Alaska

From: on b	behalf of	Breanne	Meath
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Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:27 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,
Ms Breanne Meath

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From: Kristen Dutson <

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:25 PM

To: House Education **Subject:** Do not pass HB 105

My name Is Kristen Dutson and I oppose HB 105.

I am writing to tell you that Igbtq+ Alaskan youth will die and commit suicide if you pass HB 105.

These youth belong here and deserve to live in a place that doesn't forcibly out and expose them and put them in danger.

This bill is incredibly unsupportive of Alaskan youth and is clearly rooted in dunleavy's own right wing agenda.

HB 105 is an attack on trans youth and we will not stand for it. Watch LGBTQ+ Alaskans rise from the woodwork to oppose this bill and stand by our youth.

Do NOT pass HB 105.

Thank you

-Kristen Dutson

From: on behalf of Tania Lewis

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:29 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.

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.

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.

LGBTQ youth have high levels of depression and suicide attempts and this bill will only make things worse. Similar to previous generations of young folks, youth today do not want to be limited by small-minded old politicians. Let's listen to and fight for the kids - they are the future! To protect all students' privacy and health, I urge you to oppose HB 105/SB96.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Ms. Tania Lewis

From: on behalf of Hannah Schlosstein

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:29 PM

To: House Education

Subject: 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,

Ms. Hannah Schlosstein

From: on behalf of Allegory S	1:	on behalf of Allegory Smith
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Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 4:49 PM

To: House Education

Subject: Please Pass HB 99/SB108: support 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.

I very well may have sent this message once before. If we're having to legislate protections for minoritized fellow humans because we forgot that gender diversity is as old as being human, then I think it's time for me to be a bit redundant: please support equality, and not further minoritization. Whatever terrible childhoods have been created and endured in the past, we have every opportunity and responsibility to offer children of all descriptions a better one.

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. Allegory Smith

From:			on behalf of Emily	/ Rosenfeld <	
	,	,			

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:43 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,

Dr. Emily Rosenfeld

From:

Linda DeFoliart <

Sent:

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:47 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

HB 105/SB96

I am writing to encourage you to vote no on HB 105/SB96. Minors, especially those who may be LBGQT, need to feel safe when they are discussing their sexual identity. Sadly, many do not get support or compassion at home. We are at a crossroads in this country about acceptance of gender fluidity. I would urge us not to go in the direction of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria, etc etc and instead adopt the tolerance and understanding of more forward thinking places. I'm very hopeful that soon it will be commonly accepted that gender identity is hard-wired and part of who we are. Please reject this proposal and support HB99 instead.

Thank you, Linda DeFoliart

From:

Burl Dickman <

Sent:

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:48 PM

To:

House Education

Subject:

In Opposition to HB 105

I am a resident of the Wasilla area, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 105. This legislation is an unconstitutional violation of privacy that will harm all children.

Comprehensive sex education reduces the risk of sexual abuse, sexual assault, sexually transmitted illness, and unintended pregnancy. Comprehensive sex education teaches children how to advocate for themselves, and how to identify and reach out to safe adults when they are being harmed. According to the Bureau of Justice, 34% of people who commit sexual assault or abuse are family members of victims. Allowing parents and guardians to restrict a child's access to sex education risks a child's health and safety, and only protects abusers, not children.

All children deserve the right to safe schools. This bill removes a child's ability to access public facilities without fear of harassment or interrogation. This bill seeks to empower --even compel-- teachers, administrators and students' peers to violate a child's constitutional right to privacy. Furthermore, this bill requires teachers to violate the privacy of conversations students have with teachers and staff who may be the only safe adults in that student's life.

This bill is just one of dozens of bills proposed throughout the US that claim to protect children by scapegoating trans and gender-nonconforming people, but in reality, put all children at risk of harassment, abuse, and assault at school. I cannot express my opposition to this bill strongly enough. I urge you to protect the rights of children and oppose HB 105.

From:

Marna Sanford <

Sent:

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 5:49 PM

To:

House Education

Cc:

Seth Whitten; Rep. Maxine Dibert

Subject:

HB105

Dear Education Committee members,

I am writing to express my opposition to HB105, which would require schools to report a student's gender identity to their parent or guardian without the student's consent.

As a concerned citizen, I strongly believe that every student deserves the right to privacy and autonomy when it comes to their gender identity. Being forced to reveal their gender identity to their parents before they are ready could put these students at risk for discrimination, abuse, or even homelessness.

As a guardian to a 15 year old it is with delight that I watch as they are stretching their wings and taking on more of the decisions about how they want to be in the world. I feel grateful that my family and my community have laid the groundwork to empower them as they gain responsibility and subsequently the ability to share their private information as they see fit.

This bill encourages students to hide themselves from teachers and school administrators. It is completely counter to helping kids gain traction on their path to adulthood and builds in a lack of trust in all aspects of their lives. Creating an unsafe and unwelcoming environment for LGBTQ+ students, for any students, is the exact opposite of what our schools should be striving for.

In closing, I urge you to vote against HB105 and to support the rights of all students, regardless of their gender identity. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely, Marna Sanford HD34

Subject:

From:		on behalf of Thomas Allen
	<	>
Sent:	Wednesday, March 29, 2023 6:00	PM
To:	House Education	

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 Thomas Allen

From:

Sent:

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 6:19 PM

To: Subject: House Education I Oppose HB 105

To the AK House Education Committee:

Re: public testimony on HB 105.

The Governor's bill is a blatant attack on 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.

I am speaking out to defend our youth, and show that bullying, harassment, and discrimination has no place in our state-Especially from our Elected governor!

I am mother to a young person who is Free to Choose and change their own lifestyle. I have been a substitute teacher throughout Anchorage for many years and have seen a city of children mostly taught Kelso's rules and tolerance of all(too tolerant for bullies).

I support people no matter what their birth identity, every person matters, even those who choose same sex companionship- it's our civil rights and you should be focused on that- Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness is what our constitution is to manifest. STOP THE HATE.

Sincerely, Kathleen S Dunning

From: David A. James <

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 1:16 PM

To: House Education Subject: Re: HB 105

Correction: To be uninformed is to be a victim.

I inadvertently wrote "uniformed." My error.

On Wed, Mar 29, 2023 at 12:06 PM David A. James < who was a safety of children. I'd like to speak to that.

There is widespread fear of sexualizing children through sex education in schools. Ironically, it's the absence of sex education in schools that leaves them vulnerable to sexualization by predators.

Let me illustrate this. Recently, news broke in Fairbanks about the behavior of a youth pastor at a local church. He has been charged with horrific sexual abuse. It has taken the victim fifteen years to step forward.

What does this have to do with public education? A lot. Children enrolled in the church's now shuttered private school, where proper sex education was not provided, had no means of understanding their legal right to not have their bodies violated. The result in regards to the incident with the youth pastor is that instead of alerting authorities that a crime had occurred, the victim merely told the church. She likely didn't know what else to do. The church treated it as an internal matter despite a clear violation of the law, and for the subsequent fifteen years, retained an accused pedophile as youth pastor. Part of his job was driving the church bus around town on Sunday mornings, gathering children from the streets of Fairbanks. We do not know if there were further incidents.

This is abominable. It also could have and should have been prevented. Had this young women, when she was a child, been armed with the education our children receive in the public schools, she would have had the tools to understand what was being done to her, and she might well have reported it to the proper authorities at the time, preventing this man from patrolling my community, collecting children off the street. He should have faced justice at the time, and he likely would have, had the victim known her full rights (here I will note that this church, which covered up for its youth pastor, wants this bill to pass, and a good question to ask is, why?).

We cannot, of course, regulate private schools under present law, which is why this victim passed through the cracks of our justice system at the time she was violated. To be uniformed is to be a victim. Leaving students in public schools uninformed of the fact that unwanted contact from adults needs to be reported, information they receive in the course of sex education, will render them vulnerable to victimization. With an opt-in system in place, children whose parents keep them out of sex education, regardless of the reason, will miss vital lessons on how to resist and report unwanted sexual advances. Especially from adults, but also from classmates. Far from protecting children from harm, this legislation will leave those already most vulnerable to exploitation, owing to conditions in their upbringing, even more vulnerable. Because they won't know what to do. While endangering children is precisely the opposite of the bill's stated objective, it will be the bill's inevitable outcome.

I have a personal stake in this. My late sister was improperly groped by an uncle as well as by a beloved elder in the church we attended. This was in the 1970s, when such behavior was commonplace. At that time there were precious few laws protecting children from predators, but more importantly, no education in the schools to help children understand that sexual assault is wrong and that there are systems in place they can turn to when parents and their support network don't offer aid. Passage of this bill will curtail this knowledge. It will help predators get away with their

crimes.

This is what happened with my sister. The two grown men who assaulted her both got away with it. My creepy uncle was divorced out of the family, but carried on with his activities. The elder in the church died and received a loving funeral no doubt attended by young women and girls who had felt his unwanted hands on their bodies. Neither man was ever prosecuted or held accountable for his actions. Those were the bad old days, and I have no wish to see them return. One way of preventing such an outcome is to teach children their right of autonomy over their own bodies, something my sister did not know she had at the time she was victimized.

Passage of this bill as written will not protect children. It will prevent children whose parents don't opt-in to sexual education from knowing what is improper and how to respond. This is nothing but a boon for sexual predators. We have seen where this leads with the private religious school in Fairbanks, where a young girl was not provided with proper sexual education, and as a result lived for fifteen years with the complexities of guilt, shame, fear, revulsion, trauma, and more before she has finally fully grasped what was done to her and sought justice, a process that in itself will require further reliving of the incident. Had she received proper sex education, she would have known to speak to authorities at the time, the man who violated her body would be in jail, and she could have perhaps lived a relatively normal life these past fifteen years. Instead, lack of sex education was a huge factor in prolonging her agony while allowing the predator who violated her to freely patrol our town. This is sickening to anyone with a moral conscience.

If House Bill 105 passes, this scenario will become far more common in Alaska. I cannot believe this is what Alaskans want. Please refuse to pass this bill out of your committee. It's a trojan horse for predators, and a danger to children.

David A James Fairbanks, AK

David A James Fairbanks, AK

From:		on behalf of	Lauren Heide

Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2023 1:20 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, Mrs Lauren Heide