

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Brianna Bowman
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 4:56 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. Brianna Bowman

[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99518-1374 [REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Kimberly Kloecker
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:23 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 can't believe I have to do this again- so soon after writing the last time (March 30). I'm writing to express my vehement opposition to HB105. I would call in but I will be at my 2nd job during the public testimony time frame- a job taken so I can help pay for out of state college for my trans son. College in a state where we feel he can be safe and be himself without constant attacks from people who deny his very existence.

The agony I went through as a parent watching my child struggle with mental health issues in his pre-teen years is reemerging now as fear over his safety in our home state and many parts of the country. It took a long struggle in counseling for him to realize what was so negatively impacting his mental health- the anxiety, depression, intrusive thoughts, self-harm-- all finally began subsiding as he started outing himself as trans and asking us to use his new name and pronouns. My son was always a straight-A student, in gifted, AP, and IB classes. School had always been his favorite place. He buried himself in his schoolwork and maintained his high grades but school became almost unbearable at times. On the surface his school was supportive of LGBTQ kids, including special accommodations for trans kids. However, certain individuals took it upon themselves to not follow the accommodating practices. There were also problems with substitute teachers deadnaming my son due to database issues. Due to COVID concerns, there were multiple substitute teachers daily. So my son's refuge became a dreaded place. Eventually, we were able to work with the principal and other staff to address the problems and life settled into that of a typical HS senior- college exams, applications, essays, and prom rather than anxiety and multiple meetings over names and pronouns. My son is now a pre-med major at a top-tier school on a huge merit award- a testament to his resilience and the support of family, counselors, and many individuals at his school.

To now threaten to take those same supportive systems away from other struggling kids is criminal. My son had the support of his family and could be out at home, however many children do not have that chance. Even my son came out at school first- to friends and teachers before gathering his courage to come out at home. To think that other children would be forcibly outed without their consent before they're ready is appalling. To not provide bathroom facilities for all students to feel safe while taking care of bodily necessities is appalling.

I am unhappily willing to provide more information about our struggles and successes in order to help defeat bills like this.

Sincerely, Kim

Sincerely,
Ms. Kimberly Kloecker
[REDACTED] Anchorage, AK 99517-1045
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Therese Lewandowski <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:26 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105

Education Committee Members,

Regarding HB 105, An Act relating to Sex/Reproduction Education; Schools.

I oppose this bill.

Parents can already opt-out of their kids taking sex education courses. Although, I don't understand why since the kids will then seek out their information on the internet, or worse, from their fellow students.

Written permission before a student can ask to be referenced by a different pronoun does make sense for a student under 16. That seems like common sense that a records office would already do.

Section 3 adds to the statute the ability of a parent to file a civil law suit against the school district that violates anything in this bill. This seems threatening to the school, the teachers and really the community that funds public education. Do not parents, or anyone for that matter, already have the freedom to file a civil law suit? The burden is on them.

Section 3 also threatens the school district with violation of this bill with a hefty fine. Who bears the burden of proof that a violation has taken place? I find this to be threatening as well.

A look at our local borough school district website shows that parents can access student records already and see the curriculum. Parents need to take the time to study that curriculum, perhaps many don't.

Everyone has a duty to protect, especially school teachers. If they know a child is being domestically abused are they not acting in the interest of the student to protect certain information until proper reporting is done? This subsection is reckless.

Sex education cannot be taught prior to grade 4? That makes a child 9-10 years old. In this time we are in, given the media programming that most households watch, why oh why do you not want children to know the anatomy and academics of sex at the earliest age possible?!

This bill seems to really be underhandedly targeting our gay kids and teachers. Again, this is reckless. Teachers have their hands full. Too many kids are already bullied and marginalized by other kids because they seem different. Recall your own years of puberty and trying to fit in. Let's leave them alone. Let teachers teach. Responsible parents should monitor curriculum, respectfully ask teachers questions during parent/teacher meetings and not hide under a dangerous bill that allows them to file suit if they think a teacher is giving lessons they would object to.

Respectfully,

Therese Lewandowski

Lindsey Causer

From: z <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:32 PM
To: House Education; Rep. Andi Story; Representative.Harriet.Drummond@akleg.gov; Representative.Tiffany.zulkosky@akleg.gov; Representative.grier.hopkins@akleg.gov; Rep. Mike Prax; Rep. Mike Cronk; Representative.ronald.gillham@akleg.gov
Subject: Email Testimony - Opposition to HB 105 from the interior

This is to the attention of all those (copied above) currently serving on the Alaska House Education Committee:

My name is Jessica Rozato and on behalf of Alaskans of all ages who identify as members of the queer community - and all those who have friends, colleagues and loved ones within the greater LGBTQ+ realm - I would like to state my firm opposition to HB 105.

This bill is cruel in scope and practice and goes against the freedom that our state supposedly stands for. I ask you to oppose this bill and stand for human rights and the current and future students of the 49th. I plead with you all to be on the right side of history - and not this short-sighted, sadistic swing in attempted erasure and bullying.

- Jessica R, Denali Borough

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Kelsey Dean <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 3:39 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. Kelsey Dean

[REDACTED] Juneau, AK 99801-2000 [REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Michael Hooper <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:07 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB105 testimony

My name is Michael Hooper, I am a resident of a
Anchorage District 19.

I strongly oppose HB105 which would make life more difficult for students, teachers and staff at schools across the state by limiting ways students can express themselves and restricting teacher's ability to act in their student's best interest. The bill is unnecessary and cruel. Please reject this bill.

Michael Hooper

Lindsey Causer

From: Laura Bonner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:08 PM
To: House Education
Cc: Rep. Julie Coulombe
Subject: Oppose HB105

Co-Chair Allard
Co-Chair Ruffridge
Members of House Education Committee

I'm retired and live in Anchorage. I strongly oppose HB 105. The opt-in requirement is especially troubling. Alaska has a very high rate of sexual abuse and many of the abusers are often times a parent or a "friend" of a parent. As an example, a young woman in her twenties told me that when she was in elementary school, she was molested by her mother's boyfriend (dealer) several times so her mother could get drugs. My young friend thought it was normal behavior until she learned in school it wasn't. Do you think her mother would have opted-in?

In the 1980's, I met a young woman who was raped regularly by her father starting when she was 12. In adulthood, that woman had addictions to drugs and alcohol. She allowed her adolescent daughter to be abused by her dealer in exchange for drugs. Her daughter died of AIDS before her 21st birthday.

Children and teens who are in similar situations today would be endangered if HB 105 is enacted. So I don't see this bill as Parental Rights Bill. If enacted, HB 105 could be considered an Abuser's Rights bill. What about the student's right to not be abused? Parents and guardians already have the ability to review materials used for instruction and can opt-out for their student to receive classes they find objectionable.

All of the gender identity language in this bill should not be in state statute and is very discriminatory.

All of HB 105 should be rejected as it could be dangerous for the students who really need age-appropriate sexual and reproductive education.

Laura Bonner
House District 11
Anchorage AK

Lindsey Causer

From: Carey Carpenter <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:12 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Reject HB 105

HB 105

Hello House Education Committee,

I'm writing to oppose HB 105. I'm in Tom McKay's district and he does not represent my views.

Main issues:

1. Who cares who you pee next too?

This is what it looks like, kid goes into private stall, kid does their business, kid leaves private stall and washes hands at public sink. Why does it matter if the person using the stall next to you has a penis or a vagina? Can someone explain this to me? It's like having separate drinking water fountains for blacks and whites during the Jim Crow era. It just doesn't matter and by making an issue out of it, the groups of people that want to discriminate are able to do so. How about this - the rest of society that could care less about who pees where and who drinks from what water fountain gets to continue doing what we do, which is being inclusive and welcoming to everyone and not making CHILDREN feel bad about themselves and the people that care are the ones that are forced to bring their own water bottles so they don't have to use the same water fountain as a black person and they can pee in the nurse's office in their own private bathroom so as to not have to interact with any other children after peeing? Make the discriminators that ones that have to deal with their own made-up problems.

2. Who is going to police this bathroom situation?

Are you going to have kids drop their pants at the door to check whether they have a vagina or penis and are using the correct restroom? I feel like we don't have enough education employees as it is to teach kids, the last thing we need are the "private parts police" making sure everyone uses the correct restroom. Again, if you care who you pee next to, then use the bathroom in the nurse's office. I have a personal story of how this kind of behavior effects children. My 11-year old daughter is on the swim team and someone decided that they were going to police the locker rooms at the gym to make sure kids were using the "correct" locker room. My daughter has short hair. She likes her hair short because she doesn't have to do anything with it in the mornings and it's easier and she likes the way it looks. An adult comes

up to her WHILE SHE HAS A TOWEL WRAPPED AROUND HER NAKED BODY (tell me that's not super creepy) and says to my daughter that the boy's locker room is the next door. My daughter says, "yeah I know." The creepy adult DOESN'T leave it at that. They continue on saying that my kid should make sure they are in the right locker room. This adult women is intimidating my daughter for being in the correct locker room. In order to get this adult to leave her alone, my daughter had to say, "I know, I'm a girl and I'm in the right locker room." This is 100% awful behavior and I see this HB 105 being the exact same thing. It gives adults the right to approach kids and judge them as they see fit. It gives adults permission to harass kids they don't like the looks of. It gives adults permission to approach an 11-year old little girl that is just trying to change after swim team and question whether they have a penis or vagina because that's exactly what this lady was intimating to my daughter. You know what lady, mind your own business and stop harassing my kid. Back off and if you have a problem with who changes where then you can use the individual family locker rooms and stop policing who has a penis and who has a vagina.

3. We don't have enough funding in education....

....to pay for teachers or retirement or school bus drivers and HB 105 wants to use money so that parents can sue the school district if their kid has to pee next to someone they don't like. That's a hard no. Again, if parents want to teach their kids to discriminate others that might pee in a private stall next to them, then they can pay for their own frivolous lawsuits and not use the funding that pays for my kid's education.

FINALLY, the parents that approve of this bill have options, they already have "parental rights". Their kids can pee in private bathrooms at the school. They don't have to use the restroom that the other kids use. Problem solved. This is not an issue, stop making up issues and focus on what will increase our kid's learning because policing who is using which private stall in the bathroom won't help reading test scores one single bit. Try addressing issues like teacher recruitment and retention or smaller class sizes that are proven to make positive gains for children's learning. Focus on raising the BSA and creating an educational funding formula to inflation-proof the BSA.

Sincerely,
Carey Carpenter

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Anchorage, AK 99515

Lindsey Causer

From: Olivia Edwards <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:15 PM
To: House Education
Subject: oppose HB105

Hello,

My name is Olivia Edwards, and I am a voting constituent in Fairbanks. I'm writing today in strong opposition to HB105. This bill WILL harm Alaska LGBTQ+ youth by impeding on their privacy, forcibly outing them to their parents, and further limiting sex education in schools.

PLEASE stand in opposition to this discriminatory bill.

Thank you,
Olivia Edwards
[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, Alaska 99712
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Patrick Schlichting <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:34 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105 comment

To the Members of the House Education Committee

I am opposed to HB105. Proposed rules and requirements are onerous, unnecessary, and burden teachers and administration with additional work with no compensation. A few legislators have found this bill so necessary when there is clearly more substantive and important issues facing our state. Parents already have all the access to their child's education that is needed.

The legislators should not be trying to micromanage public education when they have little to no experience, knowledge, or techniques to teach. The lack of trust in our current system is

I am a first time testifier on HB 105. Thanks for your time serving the public.

Sincerely
Patrick Schlichting

Sent from my iPhone

Lindsey Causer

From: Mollie Good <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:41 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105

To the House Education Committee:

We are lifelong Alaskan residents from Valdez. **We do not support the passing of HB 105.** This bill is a waste of time and funds, and would cause harm to those who are already vulnerable. This bill is not putting the safety and wellbeing of students first.

Thank you for your service and for receiving our comments.

Mollie and Collin Dunkin

[REDACTED]
Valdez, AK

Lindsey Causer

From: Jill Weitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 4:47 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Please do not support HB 105

Hello, Co-Chairs and Members of the Education Committee -

Please do not support House Bill 105.

Alaska's diversity is what makes us so unique - our culture, our communities, our environment - this looks different from Kotzebue to Ketchikan - but it is without a doubt that our schools are the heart of our communities. Our schools need to remain a safe place for our kids to learn, explore, and celebrate diversity, empathy, and compassion - for each other and themselves.

Alaska's suicide rate is higher than the National average. In a recent report,

- 45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year.
- LGBTQ youth who found their school to be LGBTQ-affirming reported lower rates of attempting suicide.
- LGBTQ youth who live in a community that is accepting of LGBTQ people reported significantly lower rates of attempting suicide than those who do not.
- 12% of white youth attempted suicide in the past year compared to 21% of Native/Indigenous youth

Please be part of the solution for our communities and our most vulnerable youth.
Please oppose House Bill 105.

--
Jill Weitz
Juneau, AK
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Elizabeth Garthe-Shiner [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:10 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB-105 OPPOSE

Hello all,

As a former educator and friend to many Alaskans who are LGBTQ I am writing in opposition to HB-105.

It's horrifying to imagine a learning environment where teachers cant support their students. I am short on time so I will quote an article written beautifully by an unnamed author

<https://www.kcaw.org/2023/03/27/commentary-hb-105-puts-alaskas-lgbtq-youth-at-risk-we-must-fight-it-at-every-step/>

"If passed, HB 105 would require school employees to notify parents in writing if a student requests to be called by pronouns or a name that differs from those assigned at birth. In short, educators must choose between forcibly outing students and facing legal action (including the potential loss of employment). Outing someone against their will doesn't just violate their legally-protected right to privacy; it also puts them at risk of hostility, rejection, and even violence from their parents or guardians. The governor seems to be using his previous experience as an educator to justify this bill, stating that "Research shows that involving families more in a child's education leads to better relationships and improved educational outcomes for students, and this bill will do just that." He has conveniently ignored the fact that research also shows that the presence of just one supportive adult figure in an LGBTQIA+ child's life reduces suicide attempts by 40%. Many LGBTQIA+ youths have reason to fear their parents' or guardians' reaction to their gender identity or sexuality, and this bill ensures that they will find no safety at school either.

Under this bill, parents would also need to provide written permission for their children to participate in any educational programs or classes involving sexual education and reproductive health. Again, the governor is risking the health and safety of Alaskan children in order to further his anti-LGBTQIA+ agenda. Comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education programs play a crucial role in keeping children safe. Studies have shown that these programs reduce rates of sexual activity, risky sexual behaviors, STIs, and unwanted pregnancy among youth, while also equipping younger children with the knowledge necessary to prevent, recognize, and report sexual abuse. And yes, they also teach age-appropriate information on sexual expression, orientation, and gender identity, equipping all children with the tools to understand their own identity, whatever that may be. As with all of the provisions in this bill, children from marginalized communities and those living in unsafe homes will suffer the most.

Finally, the bill requires that students in Alaskan schools use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to the sex recorded on their birth certificate, rather than to their gender identity. Again the governor wants us to believe that he is motivated by concerns for student safety or privacy, and again it is clear that his true motivation is ignorance, misinformation, and fear. Trans students do not pose a risk to their classmates, inside the bathroom or out of

it, and this provision will force them to either reveal private medical information to their peers and teachers or risk breaking the rules and being punished and forcibly outed. This is an impossible choice for children who already face heightened risks of harassment and abuse from both their peers and adults.”

All children deserve to feel safe and protected in school. All teachers should be able to teach and communicate with their students openly without fearing legal action. It’s unfair to make schools a political battleground. We can do better. Stand on the side of mental health professionals. Supporting students is a good place to start for healing the mental health state of our country. Please stand with our kids.

Thank you

Elizabeth Garthe Shiner

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

haines, Alaska 99827

Lindsey Causer

From: Britany White <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:15 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Testify HB 105

My name is Britany White, and I oppose HB 105. It's extremely harmful.
Thank you.

Lindsey Causer

From: Guy Harris <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:14 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105 Testimony

To whom it may concern,

I, Guy R. Harris, am a resident of Anchorage, AK, and a Master of Social Work Student at UAA. I am writing you this evening as part of the open public testimony occurring now regarding **House Bill 105**. I would like to provide your committee with my **strongest opposition to this bill** and its gross overreach on the individual rights of proud Alaskan youth. If the state would like to increase the workforce, discriminating against the youth that will one day fill those roles is not how that is going to happen.

Sincerely,

Guy R. Harris

Lindsey Causer

From: Carrie Nash <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:17 PM
To: House Education
Subject: I oppose HB 105

To the members of the House Education Committee:

I am unable to hold on the phone long enough to testify telephonically against HB105 in tonight's hearing. I wish to register my strong opposition to HB105 despite not being able to speak on the telephone to you.

This bill does literally nothing for education or parent's rights. Parent's already have strong and well-stated rights in Alaskan schools. They can be involved in building events, can opt children out of testing and lessons that they disagree with, can serve on school boards and curriculum committees and they are listened to by teachers at every level of education during conferences and endless phone calls and emails.

Our children also have rights including the right to privacy. This bill will put students who do not all have optimum home situations in the position of missing out on what will now be OPT-IN education about sexual health, abuse and safety issues. LGBTQ+ students will be outed to parents who may punish and kick them out of the house. Otherwise parents would know about pronoun/name preferences.

Unsupportive parents will now have the school tattle on their nearly adult children and the students will have even fewer choices to be themselves. Suicides, homelessness, depression and dropping out of school will result from this Christian Nationalist-inspired bill that has absolutely no Christian spirit in it at all. OUR CHILDREN ARE NOT OUR PROPERTY and they have self-determination. Not everyone is Christian and not every Christian feels like Dunleavy and Allard who wish to make everyone bend their knees to a particular evangelical interpretation of one faith's holy book.

The aspects of this bill that purport to help districts retain teachers are really anti-teacher and will not help kids have stability in schools, but might fill the empty teaching positions with a few warm bodies who are chasing bonuses. Give teachers defined benefits and respect and decent working contracts and conditions and teachers will stay here and teach.

Leave schools alone and just FUND THEM so they can teach our children.

DO NOT ADOPT HB105. PLEASE RAISE THE BSA!

Respectfully,
Carrie Nash, Fairbanks

--
Carrie Nash
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] cell

[REDACTED]
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Caitlyn Oliver Brown
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:20 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,
Ms. Caitlyn Oliver Brown
[REDACTED] Fairbanks, AK 99709-6914
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Yarrow Flake <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:24 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Opposition to HB 105

Hello,

I am writing to firmly object to HB 105. I have lived in Alaska my entire life and am disgusted by the hateful, ineffective and bad faith bills that this governor insists on pushing on our children. Instead of funding classrooms and ensuring nutritious school lunches, this governor insists on injecting the government into the very personal lives of students by policing their identities and potentially putting them in danger.

To many students school is a place of safety and freedom where they can be themselves with their peers and find like minded friends to help support them. Many LGBTQ+ kids do not have supportive families who do not accept them for who they are, and can cause them mental and even physical harm. Kids should be able to tell their family their identity whenever they feel ready to. It is not up to teachers and it is not up to the government to force this information out of them.

This bill puts Alaskan kids in danger and strips them of their freedoms and should not pass. It is not meant to help our children but instead exert power over them and will bring nothing but harm. I urge you not to pass it.

Sincerely,
A concerned voter

Lindsey Causer

From: Crystal Morris <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:28 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Oppose HB105

Hello Education Committee,

Governor Dunleavy is using erasure techniques and trying to deny the existence of trans and queer people, while Weaponized in the education system of Alaska.

It is not a problem in schools. The problem is under funding. Education under paying child care professionals, and making Alaska the most anti-choice state in the nation.

Dunleavy does not care about parental choice. I requiring parents to sign paperwork to agree to teach sex ed is cost in time prohibitive. Sex education is essential and directly correlates to a healthy population. Like I said, before trans issues are not the problem and I would like it if our governor would stop concerning himself with children's genitals.

Thank you for your time and please do not pass HB 105.

Respectfully,
Crystal Berwick
Government Hill Resident
Anchorage, AK
Sent from my iPhone

Lindsey Causer

From: Frank Johnston <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:29 PM
To: House Education
Subject: A Formal Opposition Of HB105

I strongly oppose HB105.

As someone with several close companions in the wider LGBTQ community, some of which are still in the education system, I feel that enacting HB105 would cut off and restrict several often life-saving programs and modes of assistance offered to LGBTQ youths. In addition, if HB105 were to be enacted, there is some reason to believe that students with other health issues, mental or physical, would fear talking to a responsible individual about it, for fear that their conversation may not be held in strict confidence and confidentiality.

As a final note, children and teenagers trapped in unfortunate and abusive households would be even more afraid to be themselves than they likely already are, knowing that their parent(s) will be informed the moment they try to speak to someone about their situation.

Regards,
Frank Johnston IV, Juneau, AK

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Riley Moser
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:35 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.

You know that as a group of people mostly identifying as republicans or conservatives who are worried about government overreach maybe you shouldn't overreach into what Alaskan kids go by or identify as. If you pass HB 105 you're on your way to making the state authoritarian and hostile to all of us. Don't be monsters and don't attack our youth.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Mr Riley Moser
[REDACTED] Juneau, AK 99801-9115
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Lila Vogt <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:36 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB105 Public Testimony

I am strongly opposed to this bill. This bill is obviously an effort by the far right Christian folks to divert public money to private schools. There are many more important issues before your body and this bill absolutely goes against all educational objectives. This should not be a matter for legislative action. I trust our teachers and educational administrators to support our students in all ways. Parents may want to limit and control the information that is available to their children, but this is not always in their best interests. Some parents want to limit or control the information available to their children and that does not encourage critical thinking or the curiosity that is the foundation of any education.

This attempt at social engineering needs to stop now!
Respectfully submitted,
lila

Lila Vogt
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99517
[REDACTED]

"Poetry is a way of remembering what it would impoverish us to forget." –Robert Frost

Lindsey Causer

From: Rebecca Hsieh <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:37 PM
To: Education
Subject: HB105

Hello,

My name is Rebecca Hsieh in Juneau, Alaska. I am writing to testify my opposition to house bill 105. The bill hurts our lgbtq plus youth community and the schools. Schools are safe places for youth to explore and develop their identities. Classrooms are meant to be a place of inclusion where teachers work with students to foster a place of learning and growing and one way they establish trust is by respecting students' pronouns. By forcing children to possible preemptively outing themselves before they are ready to share with others can cause irreparable damage. This bill penalizes children figuring out who they are and the environment that promotes their well being. Educators have years of education and is an occupation where they must continually take classes and courses for the betterment of the students, it is one of the most taxing occupations that deserves respect in trusting the classroom curriculum. This bill adds unnecessary micromanaging and threatens the sustainability of an occupation that already has a high burn out rate. Trust our teachers. Trust and protect our children.

Thank you for your time,
Rebecca Hsieh

Lindsey Causer

From: Peter Hoepfner <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:40 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Opposing HB105

Thank you to the House education committee for taking testimony.

I OPPOSE HB 105 "Parents Bill of Rights".

The idea of changing the opt in to an active formate, discourages students opportunities.

Schools already tell parents what is going to be taught to their students, before a classroom discussion.

(8) requiring that a parent be informed in writing of the right to pursue legal action against a school district if the parent's rights have been violated.

This section is "interesting"... and will set schools up for law suits, costing districts money. And how will it be determined if "parents rights have been violated"???

(10) procedures to address the physical safety and privacy of students in locker rooms and restrooms through the separation of students by biological sex, access to single occupant facilities, or other safety and privacy protocols consistent with AS 14.18.040.

And this section is simply an anti transgender move, and will we form a "police force" to monitor "bathroom" activities.

Administrators are parents, teachers are parents, school board members are parents. School districts have "site councils" for parental engagement with schools. There are PTA organizations that try and engage parents. Schools have parent teacher conferences twice or more each year, and parents are called, and encouraged to come in and speak with their students teacher about their school performance. Districts have curriculum committees, policy committees that have community members sit at the table. Strategic planning occurs where parents and other community members come to say where they want to see education move in the future.

And of course there are school board meetings, meeting held in the public to do their work. There are times at the beginning of the meeting to speak on agenda items, and time at the end of the meeting to address any subject that they would like.

Schools do EVERYTHING in their power to engage parents in their child's education, as students with engaged parents ALWAYS perform better.

This bill does nothing to help with engaging parents in their students education. It is about banning transgender students, it is about allowing parents to sue school districts, and the most offensive part, is changing the opting to "active" consent... essentially having a child bring a piece of paper home to a busy setting, get the parent to sign the form, then have the child bring it back to school... there are many problems with this system, while schools ALREADY inform the parents of what is being taught.

This bill does not do any good, and is a thinly veiled anti transgender bill, one of the more than 340 bills moving through the US just since Jan 2023. This is a "political" ideological movement, and a faulty solution to a problem that doesn't exist.

Thank you for your time and reading this email.

Peter Hoepfner
Cordova School Board VP
AASB immediate past pres

Lindsey Causer

From: Shelley Allen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:43 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Oppose HB105

I am opposed because it's a 'solution' in search of a problem. Stop harassing kids and increase the BSA if you want to do something useful

Shelley Allen
Sent from my iPad

Lindsey Causer

From: B P <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:46 PM
To: House Education
Subject: House Bill 105

I am not able to call in, but I want to share my opposition to this bill. I don't appreciate bills like this one being introduced as part of a wave of partisan, identity-based politics swelling up from the lower 48--a way for leaders of any stripe to pander to the most far-flung parts of their base. This bill is an extremist shot-on-goal for the outrage of the moment, thinly veiled as a way to help parents and protect kids.

Conversations about a parent's role in their child's education are important ones to have, but this bill is not that, and doesn't represent or seek that. It is a smokescreen. It is full of "solutions" in search of problems, all in the name of politics.

Thanks for your time
-BP of Anchorage, AK

Lindsey Causer

From: A M [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:46 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105 4/13/23

House Education Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to HB105, a harmful bill that seeks to out trans children to their potentially unsupportive, if not outright abusive families, that seeks to make the lives of trans children more difficult and potentially dangerous at school, and seeks to limit if not totally eliminate sex education with threats to teachers and schools of fines for thousands of dollars.

Many oppose this bill. We know what it's about. We know that it comes from harmful transphobic and fearful rhetoric that is not based on fact. We know that the agenda behind it does not seek to put children first or their families. We know that this bill intends to pry into the private medical information of students. We know that bills like this seek to punish schools and cripple them financially. We also know that the push for this bill and others like this is coming from out of state interests.

HB 105 should be thrown out immediately.

Thanks for your time,

Anna Miller
Kodiak

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of Catherine Mattson
<[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:49 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.

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 Catherine Mattson
[REDACTED] Juneau, AK 99801-2035
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: David Song <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:50 PM
To: House Education
Cc: Rep. Jamie Allard; Rep. Justin Ruffridge
Subject: Re: STRONG opposition to HB 105

Hello Co-chairs Allard and Ruffridge and the House Education Committee,

I am writing today in DEEP opposition to HB 105, a bill that benefits no one and does nothing but limit parental rights and harm our children.

Parents do not have ownership over their children, and their ability to express themselves and be their authentic selves should not be curtailed by the misguided beliefs of a bigoted parent.

Prior to living in Alaska, I worked in many different public schools as a science educator. In that capacity, I served as a faculty advisor for the GSA, or Gay-Straight Alliance, where LGBTQ+ students were able to have a safe place away from their peers' bullying (and oftentimes their bigoted parents' bullying as well).

You are intentionally letting parents supersede their own children's agency and identity in an attempt to provide "parental rights," and you KNOW that requiring parents to opt into programs like the GSA will out children to violent households and bar them from participating in the few school programs that will support these children. You are allowing child abuse in the pursuit of political gain.

You cannot legislate away LGBTQ+ children, you can only make life more miserable for them and the teachers who actually care about their students' safety. HB 105 would empower bigoted, uninformed parents to litigate against schools and school districts simply for doing what's best for their students. This is only going to make even more qualified teachers and administrators leave the state or leave the profession, something that Alaska cannot afford in the least.

Let's also talk about another component of this legislation, the one that would require school districts to either force trans students to use the restroom or locker room of their sex assigned at birth, no matter how these students present externally or identify currently, or use a separate isolated facility (or other safety protocols, whatever they may be). Let's put aside for now the complete misrepresentation of "biology" and the erasure of individuals who are intersex and therefore do not neatly fall into a single box. Let's put aside, for instance, the absurdity of putting someone who has identified and presented as male their entire lives (maybe even having secondary characteristics like facial hair) in the girls' locker room. This is a policy that is engineered specifically to harm children.

Your aim with this part of the legislation is to either force trans students to detransition, causing massive mental health damage, harming their families and friends (so much for parental rights), or to make them kill themselves, or leave the public school system (or state) entirely. This is a disgusting policy aimed at individuals who have done NOTHING wrong other than existing as their authentic selves. Trans people only want to use the bathroom for the same reason everyone else does - they are NOT inherently predators.

You can claim that this policy will give "local control" and "parental rights." However the impacts of this policy will extend far beyond the individual school districts and their communities. Even if you don't live in a school district governed by theocrats who ignore testimony from LGBTQ+ students and their parents, such as the Mat-Su Borough School District (that ignored a litany of comments in opposition to their recent trans sports and bathroom bans and rejected a petition from their students to create a separate gender neutral bathroom), there will still be effects to

students all across Alaska.

I know personally young trans people who have committed suicide in Juneau in the wake of this wave of politically-motivated and entirely fabricated otherization of trans people. Juneau would likely not adopt a policy like the Mat-Su, but trans people in Alaska are still waiting in anxiety to see if the hate from areas such as the Valley trickle down into their communities, and are impacted just the same.

In summation, this bill is lazy. This bill is hateful. This bill addresses no issues that we have in Alaska and only will create more as teachers, administrators, students, and businesses leave the state in droves. This bill is just a thoughtless copy-and-paste job from a lazy administration that seeks to demonize children for its own political gain. Shame on you, shame on the governor, and shame on anyone who actually promotes this kind of garbage in our schools.

Throw this terrible bill into the trash where it belongs.

David Song
Anchorage, AK

Lindsey Causer

From: Jess Dodgson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:51 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105

My name is Jessica Leachman and I am a resident of Anchorage.

I would like to express my objection to HB 105 in my own words and not some copy & paste text driven by well funded organizations.

Supporting parental rights should NOT come at the cost of the rights of our children. ALL of our children.

The LGBTQIA+ children are deserving of rights and do not deserve to be treated like less. This bill makes them to be something 'other' and our children deserve more than to be taught through the fearful, immature, and delusional lenses of their parents.

There are endless ways this bill can entangle itself in bureaucracy and leave our children hurt and I cannot see a way that any good would outweigh potential consequences. If a parent is so concerned with what their kids may learn in public education, they have plenty of homeschooling options where they can shield their family from reality.

We have seen the effects of laws like these around the country. Do not pass HB 105.

Thank you.

Lindsey Causer

From: Victoria Peters [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:52 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Opposition of HB105

I am writing as a concerned Alaskan to strongly urge your committee to oppose Governor Dunleavy's House Bill 105.

As a fairly new resident of Alaska, what I fell in love with was the open mindedness and acceptance of this state and their LGBTQ+ community. This should extend to the youth of the community.

As a former resident of Florida, my heart breaks to see Alaska begin to follow in them for laws that hurt our LGBTQ+ youth.

Forcibly outing trans youth is a dangerous prospect. As someone who grew up in an abusive and homophobic household, I fear for those whose families are not accepting of their children.

According to the Trevor Project, 42% of LGBTQ2 youth—and 52% of trans youth in particular—have seriously considered suicide in 2021. More than half of all Alaskan LGBTQ2 youth reported experiencing depression, and almost three-fourths experiencing significant anxiety. Alaska Native LGBTQ2 youth, in particular, report more instances of harassment and discrimination due to being LGBTQ2, furthering already-aborrent mental health statistics and making them 2.5 times more likely to attempt suicide than non-Native LGBTQ2 peers. Research from the National Education Association shows that harmful legislation, such as House Bill 105, only exacerbates depression and anxiety for LGBTQ2 students, and significantly increases the likelihood of suicidal ideation.

LGBTQ2 youth matter. In a state with high prevalence of adverse childhood experiences, Alaskan schools have the opportunity to encourage tolerance and acceptance through inclusive curricula, respecting a student's inherent agency and using their chosen pronouns, and creating affirming spaces to encourage personal and interpersonal growth. This helps shape a future where LGBTQ2 youth can thrive and flourish into contributing members of society, and where all Alaskan students grow to be aware and compassionate citizens.

As a concerned Alaskan and an ally to LGBTQ2 youth, I strongly urge members of the committee to oppose Governor Dunleavy's HB 105.

Sincerely,
Victoria Peters

Lindsey Causer

From: Ryia Waldern [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:52 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105 Testimony

I am submitting testimony against HB105. As a teacher I believe students need to have autonomy and support.

Lindsey Causer

From: Dana Brennan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:55 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Oppose HB105

I am testifying in opposition to HB105. This bill would endanger and abandon our non-cisgender youth. By forcing them to use bathrooms that don't align with their identity, you are violating student's right to privacy and opening them to policing from peers and staff regarding their transness. This makes them easy targets for bullying and other discrimination they do not deserve. HB105 would also allow parents access to student counseling records, further outing them to their parents that may be transphobic, exposing them to harm at home. The choice to have those discussions with parents should rest with that student alone. In addition, without the ability to speak in confidence, students in abusive and unsafe living environments are further endangered and would no longer be able to speak out and seek help in counseling from dangerous living situations. This danger would be amplified in our non-cisgender youth. Further this bill would restrict sex-ed opportunities to students which is very dangerous in preventing student's discussions and understanding in bodily autonomy, appropriate touch, and boundaries. As elected officials, it is your responsibility to ensure the wellbeing of your constituents so I urge you to oppose HB105.

Thanks,
Dana Brennan
House district 19, Anchorage

Lindsey Causer

From: Jennifer Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:57 PM
To: House Education
Subject: I oppose HB 105

I am writing as a representative of my immediate and extended family. As legally voting constituents, we are asking that you oppose HB 105.

We do not agree for the need of such a bill at this time and feel strongly against it.

I do not support HB 105, parents and guardians already have rights that this bill claims to create. Educators and staff have the training and experience to teach and care for the welfare of those they are responsible for. This bill is unnecessary and a distraction for what truly matters for our students and community; raising testing scores, competitive pay and benefits for teachers, and safety from the current number one killer of our children which now is gun violence. Also important, this bill may discourage educating our youth, especially lower grade levels, about sexual abuse, assault, and violence.

I do not support implementation of HB 105 and ask that you oppose it.

Why are politicians trying to implement such a bill? Has something recently happened within the public school system to necessitate such a bill?

I would expect changes to our education facilities be created by those trained and working within the education system with a thorough review and assessment prior to implementation, not from a politician. And certainly not when other more important issues have been front and center, namely safety and financial support.

Thank you for the opportunity to reach out to you.

Jennifer Johnson

[REDACTED]
Wasilla, AK 99623
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:06 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB105

My name is Beth Leibowitz, resident of Juneau, Alaska (9123 N. Douglas Hwy). I am submitting testimony opposing HB 105. This bill does not meaningfully contribute to parental rights, as parents can already pull their children out of classes they do not consider appropriate. Instead, the "parental permission" requirement imposes a bureaucratic burden on parents who are already juggling plenty of responsibilities. Next, the bill's provisions regarding a child's use of pronouns, etc., is a pointless intrusion into how schools deal with individual students and their needs. As one member of the public testified previously, the schools are coping just fine -- this bill is creating problems, not solving one. In short, this is a busybody bill that needs to fail.

Lindsey Causer

From: galaxy questers <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 5:39 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105

Hello,

My name is Jerrina Reed-Van Wormer my mailing address is [REDACTED] Homer ak.

I am strongly opposed to HB 105.

I worked within the anchorage school district and am a parent of two gender diverse children. Like many LGBTQ children both of my children have struggled with self harm. I am grateful during thier schooling they were allowed to be themselves because if they were more limited and excluded from healthcare they may not have made it through without the support of teachers and medical team members. And these are children who come from a supportive family. The risk to youth whom do not have these resources is too dangerous to allow in our state. Thank you for your time,
Jerrina Reed-VanWormer

Lindsey Causer

From: jennifer opie <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:08 PM
To: House Education
Subject: A comment against HB 105

To the legislatures review this bill.

As a friend to many Alaskans who are LGBTQ I am writing in opposition to HB-105.

It's horrifying to imagine a learning environment where teachers cant support their students. I am short on time so I will quote an article written beautifully by an unnamed author

<https://www.kcaw.org/2023/03/27/commentary-hb-105-puts-alaskas-lgbtq-youth-at-risk-we-must-fight-it-at-every-step/>

"If passed, HB 105 would require school employees to notify parents in writing if a student requests to be called by pronouns or a name that differs from those assigned at birth. In short, educators must choose between forcibly outing students and facing legal action (including the potential loss of employment). Outing someone against their will doesn't just violate their legally-protected right to privacy; it also puts them at risk of hostility, rejection, and even violence from their parents or guardians. The governor seems to be using his previous experience as an educator to justify this bill, stating that "Research shows that involving families more in a child's education leads to better relationships and improved educational outcomes for students, and this bill will do just that." He has conveniently ignored the fact that research also shows that the presence of just one supportive adult figure in an LGBTQIA+ child's life reduces suicide attempts by 40%. Many LGBTQIA+ youths have reason to fear their parents' or guardians' reaction to their gender identity or sexuality, and this bill ensures that they will find no safety at school either.

Under this bill, parents would also need to provide written permission for their children to participate in any educational programs or classes involving sexual education and reproductive health. Again, the governor is risking the health and safety of Alaskan children in order to further his anti-LGBTQIA+ agenda. Comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education programs play a crucial role in keeping children safe. Studies have shown that these programs reduce rates of sexual activity, risky sexual behaviors, STIs, and unwanted pregnancy among youth, while also equipping younger children with the knowledge necessary to prevent, recognize, and report sexual abuse. And yes, they also teach age-appropriate information on sexual expression, orientation, and gender identity, equipping all children with the tools to understand their own identity, whatever that may be. As with all of the provisions in this bill, children from marginalized communities and those living in unsafe homes will suffer the most.

Finally, the bill requires that students in Alaskan schools use bathrooms and locker rooms that correspond to the sex recorded on their birth certificate, rather than to their gender identity. Again the governor wants us to believe that he is motivated by concerns for student safety or privacy, and again it is clear that his true motivation is ignorance, misinformation, and fear. Trans students do not pose a risk to their classmates, inside the bathroom or out of it, and this provision will force them to either reveal private medical information to their peers and teachers or risk breaking the rules and being punished and forcibly outed. This is an impossible choice for children who already face heightened risks of harassment and abuse from both their peers and adults."

All children deserve to feel safe and protected in school. All teachers should be able to teach and communicate with their students openly without fearing legal action. It's unfair to make schools a political battleground. We can do better. Stand on the side of mental health professionals. Supporting students is a good place to start for healing the mental health state of our country. Please stand with our kids.

Thank you

Your neighbor in Southeast, AK.

Haines, Alaska 99827

Lindsey Causer

From: Rebecca Hsieh <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:09 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Opposition to HB 105

My name is Rebecca Hsieh and I live in Juneau, Alaska. I am writing in opposition to house bill 105. The bill hurts our lgbtq+ youth community and the schools. Schools are safe places for youth to explore and develop their identities. Classrooms are meant to be a place of inclusion where teachers work with students to foster a place of learning and growing and one way they establish trust is by respecting students' pronouns. By forcing children to possibly preemptively outing themselves before they are ready to share with others can cause irreparable damage. This bill penalizes children figuring out who they are and the environment that promotes their well being. Educators have years of education and is an occupation where they must continually take classes and courses for the betterment of the students, it is one of the most taxing occupations that deserves respect in trusting the classroom curriculum. This bill adds unnecessary micromanaging and threatens the sustainability of an occupation that already has a high burn out rate. Trust our teachers. Trust and protect our children.

Thank you for your time,
Rebecca Hsieh

Lindsey Causer

From: Williams Karen <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:15 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Against HB 105

I am a retired teacher within ASD. I taught for nearly thirty years. I am strongly opposed to HB 105 because it is bigotry. It strips schools of their ability to educate, affirm, and protect trans and gender non-conforming youth who cannot safely share their identity with their families. It is clear that students need to have an adult who cares about them, who listens, who they can trust. This bill takes that away-this could lead to a higher suicide rate for our children.

DO NOT PASS THIS LEGISLATION!

Karen Williams
[REDACTED]
Anchorage, AK 99504

Sent from my iPhone

Lindsey Causer

From: Nic Dwyer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:16 PM
To: representative.andi.story@akleg.gov
Cc: House Education
Subject: Opposition to HB 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

Lindsey Causer

From: Jenny Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:18 PM
To: House Education
Subject: I oppose HB 105

I oppose HB 105, this is a distraction and a danger. Please oppose bill HB 105

Brandon Johnson

[REDACTED]
Wasilla, AK 99623
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Ken Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:21 PM
To: House Education
Subject: I oppose HB 105

I oppose the bill HB 105. I ask that the AK House Education Committee Representatives oppose HB 105.

Thank you.

Kenneth Johnson

[REDACTED]
Wasilla, AK 99623
[REDACTED]

Lindsey Causer

From: Selena Moore <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:24 PM
To: House Education
Subject: HB 105

I'm writing tonight to speak against House Bill 105.

I am a teacher in the FNSBSD and taught 10th-grade English for 10 years. Every year my students read the classic novel "Lord of the Flies". As part of our study, we discussed how the fear that the boys felt while on the island impeded their judgment and led them to harm others.

I share that story because I believe HB 105 is a policy created out of fear. Fear of ways of living that some don't understand and that may challenge their way of thinking about the world. This bill was not created with sound judgment or careful consideration for the potential negative impacts it may have on students in our state.

I implore you to vote against this bill, because it will result in unintended harm to our students. I ask you also to keep in mind the message that is on the wall of my classroom: "We the people are greater than fear."

Thank you,
Selena Moore
Fairbanks, AK

Lindsey Causer

From: Wade Gruhl [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:29 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Oppose 105

I oppose HB 105 and the disgusting culture warrior bigotry it represents and enables. And you should too. Shame on any excremental excuse for a human who does!

Sent from my phone

Lindsey Causer

From: Brian Miller <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:30 PM
To: House Education
Subject: Opposition to HB 105

Hello Representatives-

Just writing to ask that you vote against HB 105. I strongly oppose bigotry and discrimination toward our LGBTQ+ neighbors and I believe this bill will only encourage more bigotry. Thank you for voting against HB 105.

-Brian Miller
Anchorage

Sent from my iPhone

Lindsey Causer

From: S L <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:32 PM
To: House Education
Subject: House Bill 105

To Whom this may Concern

I would like to be in saying that I strongly oppose House Bill 105. I find this bill extremely dangerous to the transgender youth here in the state of Alaska. Trans community have some of highest-rated suicide cases in youths due lack of support from love ones. This bill will add to those numbers if it passes. Please do not pass this bill.

Lindsey Causer

From: Veronica Slajer [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2023 6:40 PM
To: House Education
Cc: Rep. Zack Fields
Subject: HB105

Good evening,

I'm a lifelong Alaskan – current resident of Anchorage, attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks (MA/RD '2012), and raised in Ketchikan (Kayhi '79), I'm a homeowner and small business owner—and I **respectively request that you reconsider the cuts made to the education budget.**

Like you, I would like to see Alaska's economy grow and the people prosper. However, giving outsized PDFs and forgoing fully funded education and related support for needy Alaskans does not make for a path toward prosperity. Rather, it's a path toward 'out migration' and no new business of any significance moving in – our state will atrophy.

No good comes from cuts to education. As you know, our student numbers have been dropping and they will continue to drop if we don't offer the resources our youth (preK thru college) need and grow a healthy, educated workforce.

In fact, due to Covid and other factors, we have a lot to make up for – I would advance that need to double-down!

Please do the right thing and support kids – funding another massive PFD is not going to help get our young people now or in the future.

Regards, Veronica Slajer

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

PS I tried multiple times to call-in my testimony, but all the lines are busy. I trust that someone will read my comments along with the many thousands of Alaskans who want to see Alaska make the proper and full investments need toward a robust education and related support needed for a healthy and thriving state.

VERONICA A. SLAJER
TEAM LEAD - COMMUNITIES & SOCIAL PERFORMANCE

■ [REDACTED] ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
■ [REDACTED] WASHINGTON, DC
■ [REDACTED] PARIS, FRANCE

VERONICA A. SLAJER SKYPE

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This email is confidential and may also be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact me immediately and delete this message from your system without first printing or copying it.