

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
HOUSE EDUCATION STANDING COMMITTEE**

April 13, 2023

5:15 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Representative Jamie Allard, Co-Chair  
Representative Justin Ruffridge, Co-Chair  
Representative Mike Prax  
Representative CJ McCormick  
Representative Tom McKay  
Representative Rebecca Himschoot  
Representative Andi Story

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

All members present

**OTHER LEGISLATORS PRESENT**

Representative Jennie Armstrong  
Representative Alyse Galvin  
Representative Andy Josephson  
Representative Jesse Sumner  
Representative Will Stapp

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR**

HOUSE BILL NO. 105

"An Act relating to parental rights in a child's education; relating to access to school records; relating to sex education, human reproduction education, and human sexuality education; relating to school disciplinary and safety programs; and providing for an effective date."

- HEARD & HELD

**PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION**

BILL: HB 105

SHORT TITLE: SEX/REPRODUCTION EDUCATION; SCHOOLS

SPONSOR(S): RULES BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

03/08/23	(H)	READ THE FIRST TIME - REFERRALS
03/08/23	(H)	EDC, JUD
03/13/23	(H)	EDC AT 8:00 AM DAVIS 106

03/13/23	(H)	Heard & Held
03/13/23	(H)	MINUTE (EDC)
03/29/23	(H)	EDC AT 8:00 AM DAVIS 106
03/29/23	(H)	Heard & Held
03/29/23	(H)	MINUTE (EDC)
03/30/23	(H)	EDC AT 5:15 PM DAVIS 106
03/30/23	(H)	Heard & Held
03/30/23	(H)	MINUTE (EDC)
04/13/23	(H)	EDC AT 5:15 PM BARNES 124

#### **WITNESS REGISTER**

RON SOHERVILLE, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

JOHNNY ELLIOT, Representing Self

Sitka, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CORRINE MARKS, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CHEYENNE CUELLAR, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

RACHEL IAFUUA, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ELIZABETH HILLSTROM, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

LILY AYAU, Representing Self

Skagway, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CALLIE CONERTON, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JACQUELINE BACHER, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JOSIE POUG, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SHELBY JONES, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ELIZABETH SIDDON, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ANDY HOLLEMAN, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KELBY RANDALL, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KELLY LESSENS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DYANI CHAPMAN, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KAROLINA PAVIC, Representing Self  
Girdwood, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

FRANCESCA ALLEGREZZA, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

DON ROBERTS JR, Representing Self  
Kodiak, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JIMMY MORRISON, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

MICHAEL CONTI, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DAVID CARTER, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

ALLEN STRAH, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KRISTIE WALL, Representing Self  
Kodiak, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

RACHEL LORD, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

LAURA STEELE, Representing Self  
Auke Bay, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JACOB BERA, Representing Self  
Peters Creek, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

MYLES MCDONALD, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

HANNAH WATKINS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KATE VEH, Representing Self  
Soldotna, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

TONJA MOSER, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KRISTIN GARUT, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

PATRICK O'CONNOR, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

WILLIAM LIART, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CATHERINE POOL, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ALLISON RADFORD, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MAGGIE KNULL, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ALEXANDER MORIARTY, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ROB ROYS, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

GRIFFEN SUKKAEW, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

YVETTE SOUTIERE, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SARA FRANK, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

YOLANDA TANKERSLEY, Representing Self

Chugiak, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

NATILY BEALS, Representing Self

Kenai, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

COURTNEY WEAVER, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JIMENA CUENCA, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ANNA BRAWLEY, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMILY KEITHAHN, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JESSICA ULLRICH, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SIERRA MOSKIOS, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DOUG KOESTER, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ROBERT HOCKEMA, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JUDY ELEDGE, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

EARL BANNING, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DENNIS MURRAY, Representing Self  
Soldotna, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

REBECCA HINSBERGER, Representing Self  
Kasilof, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

CHELSEA TREMBLAY, Representing Self  
Petersburg, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SAMANTHA HODGINS, Representing Self  
Petersburg, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EZZY BANNING, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

VICTORIA CURRAN, Representing Self  
Sitka, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

REBECCA BERNARD, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MICHELLE VASQUEZ, Representing Self  
Soldotna, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MENEKA THIRU, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

STEVEN FARRING, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SHAWN GARDNER, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

THEA SCALISE, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ALANA BRANSON, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KALEB DAUGHERTY, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SEAN PHILLIPS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

OLIVIA EDWARDS, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

BRITTANY QUALES, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

STEPHEN EDWARDS, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ADAM HAYS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KATHLEEN RAYMOND, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KRISTINA VAN HOOGMOED, Representing Self  
Kodiak, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DR. ROBIN HOLMES, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JESSICA ROZATO, Representing Self  
Denali, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

NICHOLE BEARDEN, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

TODD WEHNES, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ELSTUN LAUESEN, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KAIA BLOUNT, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DOMINIC SCALISE, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

BETH SHORT-RHOADS, Representing Self

Sitka, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JESSICA GUANA, Representing Self

Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ROBERT PATTERSON, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

GUS PAUL, Representing Self

Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DAVID LESLIE, Representing Self

Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

RAE RAMOS, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMILY COHEN, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JOHN LETTOW, Representing Self

Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

KELLY NASH, Representing Self

Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

MARY SZATKOWSKI, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DAVID BOYLE, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

PAMELA HALL, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

ALEX PETKANAS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JO ANN GRUBER, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SAGE WHITMAN, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JAY HITCHCOCK, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DR. VALERIE BROOKS, Representing Self  
Ketchikan, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMILY HARTLEY, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ERIN HOLLINGSWORTH, Representing Self  
Utqiagvik, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ELENA PRISSEKIN, Representing Self  
Palmer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ANALISE GOEDEKE, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JULIE SCHMIDT, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MICHAEL FLINT, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

TAMARA KRUSE ROSELIUS, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

STACEY LANGE, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

LAUREN BESKOW, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

YVONNE UMNER, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

TITUS SOFRON, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

KELLI REED, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ALICIA SIDEBOTTOM, Representing Self  
Palmer, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CARLY JENSEN, Representing Self  
Soldotna, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JOHN OSTERHOUT, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska  
**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

VALINA HANSEN, Representing Self  
Haines, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

DIANNE MACRAE, Representing Self  
Kasilof, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

PRISCILLA HURLEY, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during the hearing on HB 105.

KASSANDRA SMILEY, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

LIZ LYKE, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MAREN MILLER, Representing Self  
Kodiak, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SARAH SULLIVAN, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SIQIINQ MAUPIN, Director  
Sovereign Inupiat for a Living Arctic  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

RANDI IVERSON, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SHANE BRODIE, Representing Self  
Nome, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SHARON HEIN, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SAMANTHA THOMAS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

AARON SPRATT, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

DENILE AULT, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MARK AAMODT, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

BRITTANY TOMKINS, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

AMY RODMAN, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

LISA BRICKER, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

DANIEL TWEEDY, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

CHANDRA COFFROY, Representing Self  
Anchor Point, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

CLAUDIA HAINES, Representing Self  
Homer, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JACLYN GAGNON, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

GEORGE SNODGRASS, Representing Self  
Eagle River, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

DANA THYNES, Representing Self  
Petersburg, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

GAIL MCBRIDE, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

CHAVA SCHAPIRA, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

AMANDA SPRATT, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

WILL MULDOON, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ASA PENDERGRAST, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KEVIN BERRY, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JAMES SQUYRES, Representing Self  
Deltana, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

MARGIE THOMSON, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

BILL SPENCER, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

IVAN HODES, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KACYA BATISHCHEVA, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

GUY HARRIS, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KATE JOHNSON, Representing Self  
Sitka, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JULEE-ANNA PREUIT, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EPHRAIM FROEHLICH, Representing Self  
Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

KATHY MILLER, Representing Self  
Kenai, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

LISA MALONEY, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

JOHN CREED, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MAE MARSH, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

SKYLAR EVANS, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

OLIVER BERGH, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

IRENE QUEDNOW, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

EARL WILLIAMS JR., Representing Self  
Sitka, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SONAZ SAFARI, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

HANNAH WARREN, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

REBECCA AMES, Representing Self

Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

ALEX BARSEKIAN, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMILY SULLIVAN, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMILY GEBEL, Representing Self

Juneau, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified during in support of HB 105.

ERICA WATSON, Representing Self

Denali Park, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SCOTT HANSEN, Representing Self

Haines, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

JAN DELAND, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

KRISTEN SCHUPP, Representing Self

Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

EMMANUEL HANSEN, Representing Self

Haines, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

MICHALE RATZLAFF, Representing Self

Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

SUMMER ANDERSEN, Representing Self  
Haines, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

LOIS EPSTEIN, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

MEG WAITE, Representing Self  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in opposition to HB 105.

IRIS WILLIAMS, Representing Self  
Wasilla, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

JASON ROBINSON, Representing Self  
Anchorage, Alaska

**POSITION STATEMENT:** Testified in support of HB 105.

#### **ACTION NARRATIVE**

[5:15:11 PM](#)

**CO-CHAIR JAMIE ALLARD** called the House Education Standing Committee meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Representatives Story, McKay, Himschoot, Prax, Ruffridge, and Allard were present at the call to order. Representative McCormick arrived as the meeting was in progress. Also present were Representatives Armstrong, Galvin, Josephson, Sumner, and Stapp.

#### **HB 105-SEX/REPRODUCTION EDUCATION; SCHOOLS**

[5:15:49 PM](#)

CO-CHAIR ALLARD announced that the only order of business would be public testimony on HOUSE BILL NO. 105, "An Act relating to parental rights in a child's education; relating to access to school records; relating to sex education, human reproduction education, and human sexuality education; relating to school disciplinary and safety programs; and providing for an effective date."

[5:16:05 PM](#)

CO-CHAIR ALLARD began by acknowledging misperceptions regarding the proposed legislation, adding that she wished to briefly

clarify some points. She stated that nothing in the bill would require a teacher to "out" a lesbian, gay, or bisexual student to their parents. It neither states this in the bill, nor does the legislature want it to, she said. She opined that educators should not be involved in the sex lives of students. She listed the following requirements in the bill: parental permission for addressing a child by a different name; parental permission regarding sexual and gender related content at school to which the child would be exposed; and the use of bathrooms and locker rooms, if labeled, to coincide with a student's biological sex. Further, HB 105 would make it illegal for a school district to withhold information from parents regarding a child's physical, medical, or mental health.

[5:18:41 PM](#)

CO-CHAIR ALLARD opened public testimony on HB 105.

[5:19:24 PM](#)

The committee took an at-ease from 5:19 p.m. to 5:20 p.m.

[5:20:36 PM](#)

RON SOHERVILLE, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He said he was not gay but had no issue with those who "choose to take that lifestyle." He opined that parents should be involved in their children's schooling, including any discussions related to gender identity. He said if the school system did not recognize parents' involvement, he would support parents taking their children out of public schools and enrolling them in charter schools.

[5:23:37 PM](#)

JOHNNY ELLIOT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He shared his pronouns as he/him. He said that while he supported parental involvement in the school system, HB 105 seemed focused on parental control and consent of "every nitty gritty" related to students' education; for example, how a child presents at school and what names they choose. He stated that a teacher's support of a transgender ("trans") student dramatically drops the likelihood that the student will attempt suicide, adding that the proposed legislation would not allow teachers to be that person.

[5:25:59 PM](#)

CORRINE MARKS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She related that she was a teacher, a parent to a trans man, and a sister to gay man. She likened to bill's focus to the McCarty Era and identified the ally/educator as "the next witch or communist." She emphasized her thankfulness for the allies and teachers that both her brother and son had.

[5:28:30 PM](#)

CHEYENNE CUELLAR, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that she was an educator who taught a reproductive unit in science. She shared that under current law, she was required to send a note to parents giving them the chance to "opt out" their child from the unit. Under HB 105, she would have to collect permission slips, which would be a further burden and could result in students missing the unit as a result of permission slips not being submitted.

[5:29:49 PM](#)

RACHEL IAFOUA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she would not pretend that the bill was about giving parents a choice, opining that it would send the message that trans kids do not belong. She believed that passage of the bill could hinder a student's ability to be successful in such an environment.

[5:31:29 PM](#)

ELIZABETH HILLSTROM, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that many times parents are slow to accept children's identities and may not agree or understand what children are going through. She opined that teachers should be allowed the freedom to provide an education without feeling that they are "walking on eggshells" for opening themselves up to lawsuits.

[5:33:06 PM](#)

LILY AYAU, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that youth deserve the opportunity to learn about gender identity and expression, and the opportunity to disclose information about their gender at their discretion to the people of their choosing.

[5:33:43 PM](#)

CALLIE CONERTON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that in her classroom, diversity was respected, and she supported the differences she saw in the world. She opined that the proposed legislation would limit the empathy that she can show and discuss in her classroom.

[5:35:20 PM](#)

JACQUELINE BACHER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that as a teacher, teaching is never the only thing that you do. The role of a teacher is one that is complicated, but being a safe and trusted individual for a student who does not have that at home is one of the most important duties, she said. She questioned how Alaska could be enriched with such a law [as HB 105].

[5:38:15 PM](#)

JOSIE POUG, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she was very nervous about public speaking, opining that the bill was "really terrible and not right." She said she went to counseling at her school and felt comfortable talking to the counselor, adding that some people tell their counselor things they would not tell their parents.

[5:39:22 PM](#)

SHELBY JONES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she disagreed with the bill because "you are you and that's who you are."

[5:40:31 PM](#)

ELIZABETH SIDDON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She referenced a radio advertisement from 20 years ago that stuck with her, which asked kids whether they had five trusted adults in their lives. She said she knows that teachers are the trusted adults for kids in the community. She asked the committee to remember that kids are dealing with a lot and need support.

[5:42:42 PM](#)

ANDY HOLLEMAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He believed that some parts of the bill were good, and some were problematic. He stated that permission slips and

lesson plans are part of school, but a clerical error could lead to a civil lawsuit. He asked the committee to not make it worse by passing HB 105.

[5:44:06 PM](#)

KELBY RANDALL, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He shared that he is a transgender citizen. He recalled when he was in high school and sought the help of one of his teachers. Had the bill been in effect, he said, the teacher would have been liable to tell his parents and there would have been negative repercussions.

[5:46:50 PM](#)

KELLY LESSENS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that bill would not do anything to help support her children's education.

[5:49:10 PM](#)

The committee took a brief at-ease.

[5:50:18 PM](#)

DYANI CHAPMAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She highlighted a section on page 2 of the bill regarding teachers having to spend more time following up on permission slips instead of actually teaching. She opined that extra bureaucracy served no one well, adding that the bill had "gray areas."

[5:52:32 PM](#)

KAROLINA PAVIC, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated how "absolutely embarrassing" the bill was for the legislative body, observing how another hearing was now taking place on the subject of legislating gender. She referenced the number of teachers already abandoning the trade. She expressed concern about being required to contact parents each time a student went by a pronoun or a name, in addition to all of the other duties teachers have.

[5:55:04 PM](#)

FRANCESCA ALLEGREZZA, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She characterized schools that hide and keep secrets

from parents as alarming and disturbing. If teachers do not respect the rights and beliefs of parents, they should be held responsible, she opined. She shared her belief that parental consent for a sexual education topic was a "must" and should not be taught before fourth grade.

[5:57:43 PM](#)

DON ROBERTS JR., Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that he served as a volunteer crossing guard for 20 years and took the well-being of children very seriously. He added that the bill would open the door to harassment and bullying because it prevented employees from intervening.

[6:00:19 PM](#)

JIMMY MORRISON, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He expressed support for the bill's intent to maintain public transparency and guarantee parents' rights in public schools. He argued that no teacher should try to blur the role between a parent and teacher. Educators should teach established curriculum, not indoctrination, ideology, or become intimately involved with parents' children, he said.

[6:02:50 PM](#)

MICHAEL CONTI, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He shared that he was a parent of a trans child. Given the difficulties of growing up, the bill may further marginalize lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA) kids by taking away their privacy and support networks, he opined.

[6:04:44 PM](#)

DAVID CARTER, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. He stated that he was retired, heterosexual, and a big supporter of public education. He mentioned a book called "The Founding Myth" published in 2019 by Andrew Seidel, opining that it could be a wonderful source of information for legislators, staff members, media, parents and teachers.

[6:07:05 PM](#)

ALLEN STRAH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said the failure to educate kids on reproductive health could eventually result in unwanted teenage pregnancy and the

spread of sexually transmitted infections. He suggested that if parents want involvement in their children's education, they can (indisc.) and attend parent-teacher association (PTA) meetings. Educators, he said, should not be told how to do their job, arguing that kids could be "outed" against their will [should HB 105 pass].

[6:09:29 PM](#)

KRISTIE WALL, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. She stated that she was passionate about education and shared that she was a grandmother to two young girls that she hoped could build relationships with their teachers when the time comes. Educators are not creating the problem, she said, but must deal with the problems the children bring to them in the best way they can. She opined that HB 105 would be a problem for teachers.

[6:12:07 PM](#)

RACHEL LORD, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that she was a parent to two children in two different schools and was a member of both schools' PTA. Parents have rights, but so do children, she said. The bill could actively increase tension between families and schools and violate the rights of Alaska's youth.

[6:13:44 PM](#)

LAURA STEELE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she was a mother of a two-year old and had many concerns about raising a child; however, when her child starts school, she said she was not concerned about her child using the same bathroom of a transgender student, or teachers using a child's preferred name, or teachers offering age-appropriate sex education and talking with her child about gender identity or sexual orientation.

[6:15:30 PM](#)

JACOB BERA, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. He shared that he was a teacher and parent but wished to speak from a parent's perspective. He said he had many opportunities to come to school to talk with teachers and principals. In terms of the intent of the bill to ensure that parents have access to schools, he said that had not been his experience, nor a problem. As a teacher, his interest was in

how to make schools a place where everyone feels welcome. He suggested that the committee look at guidelines that the Anchorage School District (ASD) has put out regarding this subject matter, which he believed to be more appropriate than HB 105.

[6:17:35 PM](#)

MYLES MCDONALD, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said if the bill had been in place when he was a student, it could have been "too much to handle."

[6:18:50 PM](#)

HANNAH WATKINS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. As a former student, a peer educator, and a future medical professional, she stated that HB 105 would harm many children and serve to endanger vulnerable children by forcibly "outing" them to parents who were not supportive of their identity.

[6:20:59 PM](#)

KATE VEH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 because the bill would force teachers and counselors to "out" students who are gay or trans to their parents. Additionally, she pointed out that there was a teacher shortage. She believed that added responsibilities on their to-do list would not be beneficial.

[6:23:01 PM](#)

TONJA MOSER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 as a retired teacher. She said she came before the committee with two messages: firstly, to trust teachers because they love their job and take it seriously; secondly, as a parent of a trans kid, she explained that her child went to a teacher first before coming to her. She opined that the bill would hurt children that do not have accepting parents.

[6:25:24 PM](#)

KRISTIN GARUT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 as a 25-year educator in Alaska. She said there were many aspects of the proposed legislation that were of great concern to her. She expressed concern about the provision requiring written permission from a parent before a name or pronoun is used by a school to address a student, in addition to the

requirement for students to use a bathroom corresponding with their biological sex. It would only further marginalize and stigmatize the students, she opined.

[6:27:47 PM](#)

PATRICK O'CONNOR, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He believed that the bill was not written with the well-being of students in mind and disregarded the consequences of family isolation experienced by many queer youths. If a student does not have supportive parents, they may turn to a trusted adult, such as an educator, he said, opining that HB 105 supported radical political objectives.

[6:29:56 PM](#)

WILLIAM LIART, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, and shared that he was a parent of a trans child. He shared his belief that it should not be illegal for adults, such as educators, to help their students who may be struggling.

[6:32:00 PM](#)

CATHERINE POOL, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she was disheartened by what educators and kids face during their "navigation of this world," adding that she strongly opposed the proposed legislation.

[6:32:46 PM](#)

The committee took an at-ease from 6:32 p.m. to 6:34 p.m.

[6:34:52 PM](#)

ALLISON RADFORD, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she did not prepare any remarks but wanted to acknowledge the bravery of others who had testified in opposition to the bill.

[6:35:23 PM](#)

The committee took a brief at-ease at 6:35 p.m.

[6:36:07 PM](#)

MAGGIE KNULL, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that her legal name was Margaret, not Maggie,

which she defined as her "gender conforming nickname." Under the proposed legislation, she would have had to get permission from her parents to use that nickname. She said she knew she was a safe and trusted adult, adding that students were not always ready to talk to a parent about their lives. As a teacher, it was her legal obligation to keep kids safe, she said.

[6:38:38 PM](#)

ALEXANDER MORIARTY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He wished to "piggyback" on other testifiers tonight regarding finding a trusted adult. He recounted how he came out to a pastor and how important it was for him to be able to do that. He said he did not want others to have the experience of living with family members who are not supportive, but it's the only choice they have.

[6:40:54 PM](#)

ROB ROYS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He opined that the bill would increase teen suicide, teen pregnancy, and sexual assault.

[6:41:57 PM](#)

GRIFFEN SUKKAEW, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that he works in the [capitol] building and that he is a transgender man. He said he hoped to become a teacher after college graduation, but he questioned working in a state that is actively working against the future. Transgender people have always been around, he said, adding that the bill would just make a transgender kid's life so much worse.

[6:43:05 PM](#)

YVETTE SOUTIERE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. Being from Colorado originally, she protested Colorado's Amendment 2, opining that HB 105 was another step closer to Alaska having something similar; however, Amendment 2 was struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court, she noted. She said for some children, school is the only place they feel safe, and expressed her belief that the bill falsely claimed to be about parental rights. She asked, "What about the children?"

[6:45:31 PM](#)

SARA FRANK, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that her father was a trans man, and emphasized that children are their own unique individuals, not the property of their parents. An adult's job is to help children process and understand their experiences, not control them, she said.

[6:47:58 PM](#)

YOLANDA TANKERSLEY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, as a parent of a transgender son whom she was testifying on behalf of. She relayed contents of a letter written from her son, named Jessie, summarizing that he was comfortable being who he is today because of his teachers helping him understand that people can be different. If the bill passes, he wrote, children like him won't have that chance. He said he would hate to see Alaska become as "backwards" as so many other states.

[6:50:07 PM](#)

NATILY BEALS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill claimed to be around parental rights; however, it threatened to strip away the rights of minors who are also U.S. citizens. She mentioned the case of Tinker v. Des Moines [Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)], and likened gender presentation as any other form of expression, adding that trans youth also deserve the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

[6:52:15 PM](#)

COURTNEY WEAVER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He questioned the bill's intent, as an educator teaching in Alaska's public schools, opining that it would do little to address parental rights. She urged the legislative body to oppose the bill.

[6:54:02 PM](#)

JIMENA CUENCA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared her belief that HB 105 targeted kids and exposed them to bullying just because of who they are, which is not the Alaska she knows and loves, she said. She stated the bill was wrong and uncaring, and that schools should be able to protect children from mistreatment without the threat of a lawsuit.

[6:56:23 PM](#)

ANNA BRAWLEY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said he wanted to speak to several points, one being the framing of the bill as supporting parents' rights. She emphasized the need to support children's rights. She quoted portions of the Alaska Constitution, summarizing that all persons are equal and entitled to equal rights, opportunities, and protection under the law. She believed that the bill was "an unconstitutional waste of time."

[6:58:32 PM](#)

EMILY KEITHAHN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that she worked for the Juneau School District and that her passion was engaging in youth suicide prevention. One of the known risk factors of youth suicide is discrimination, she said, opining that the passage of the bill could directly contribute to suicide risk factors. She urged the committee to oppose HB 105.

[6:59:49 PM](#)

JESSICA ULLRICH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she had two teenage daughters, naming her 15-year-old as the cause of opposition to HB 105. She characterized the bill as disregarding children's rights; discriminatory towards trans children; and unnecessary. The bill claimed to focus on parental rights but lacked children's rights. She added that she did not understand why a permission slip was "added to the mix," nor did she understand how gender specific bathrooms and locker rooms would be safer. She opined that the bill was short-sighted and unnecessary.

[7:02:10 PM](#)

SIERRA MOSKIOS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she recognized that many people preceding her had "eloquently stated what she wanted to say."

[7:02:49 PM](#)

DOUG KOESTER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said he was a sex educator for five years in Alaska and wanted to stress his strong opposition to HB 105, as well as how difficult it could make things for educators. He emphasized the

importance of teaching body autonomy to younger kids and protection from sexual abuse.

[7:05:22 PM](#)

ROBERT HOCKEMA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He referred to Co-Chair Allard's opening statement that the bill wouldn't "out" students, and that parents have a right to know what is going on in their kids' lives. He contended that those rights should never conflict with a child's right to a safe education. If the bill passed, he said he was afraid that children would be "outed," adding that he did not agree with gender specific locker rooms and bathrooms.

[7:07:53 PM](#)

JUDY ELEDGE, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. She expressed concern regarding the definition of "parental rights," adding that she was shocked that parental rights needed to be identified in education. She said nowhere in HB 105, which she defined as a "parental rights bill," was there an effort to endanger children by notifying parents of something as serious as "gender confusion."

[7:10:26 PM](#)

EARL BANNING, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 as a psychologist and parent of a trans child. He believed that there were many things wrong with the bill and would not have time to speak to all of them. If the bill passed, trans students would not be given the same rights at school. He pointed out that trans students may not have support at home and that teachers can save the lives of children by allowing them to feel accepted. He opined that the state government was trying to legislate nicknames and gender identity, adding that the bill would not help or protect anyone, including teachers.

[7:13:00 PM](#)

DENNIS MURRAY, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. As a parent of several children, he stated, parents are their first teachers. He found it unfortunate that the proposed legislation needed to be before the public, opining that the notion of parental responsibility was diminished when representatives of the state - being teachers - believe that they have more rights than the parents. He urged the committee

to pass the legislation and affirm that parents are the foundation that needs to be protected.

[7:14:38 PM](#)

REBECCA HINSBERGER, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She expressed her belief that she represented the majority of parents, opining that with the rare exception of dysfunctional or abusive parents, most parents are safe and loving. She believed that children's mental health had suffered from the removal of that safety. She said teens are in the most vulnerable period of their lives and need their parents' love and involvement. They should never be separated from that by the government or school, she added. She opined that the bill supported "gender confusion."

[7:17:04 PM](#)

CHELSEA TREMBLAY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She focused on what it was like to be young in Alaska's schools as a person dealing with hostility regarding gender or sexual orientation. She said now that talking about it had become more acceptable, the bill would make things even harder and more challenging.

[7:18:41 PM](#)

The committee took a brief at-ease.

[7:20:03 PM](#)

SAMANTHA HODGINS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she served as a primary care provider for adolescents and young adults, many of whom were "gender diverse." She said the law outlined in HB 105 would have a monumentally negative impact on youth. She urged the committee to reconsider enacting HB 105 to further prevent alienation and potential harm to an already disenfranchised minority population.

[7:21:37 PM](#)

EZZY BANNING, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that she was an 11-year-old student who had gone to school in four different states, noting that each time she was taught to be kind and celebrate differences. She believed that the bill was focused on the wrong things, and that

no one is worried about what bathroom they use. She opined that the rights of transgender kids should not be taken away. She asked the committee to create safe spaces for everyone in school instead of "creating a problem when there isn't one."

[7:23:42 PM](#)

VICTORIA CURRAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said parents already have full control to opt their child out of any activity or class they do not support; additionally, there are bathrooms that can be used if someone is uncomfortable. She believed that by not allowing students to live their authentic selves at school, which is the only safe space for some, it could increase the likelihood of self-harm and suicide for transgender, as well as other youth. She urged the committee not to pass HB 105, as it would burden teachers, administrators, increase the cost of education, and hurt all students.

[7:25:37 PM](#)

REBECCA BERNARD, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she was the mother of two children, one of whom is transgender. She shared that her daughter had the family's support because they see how happy she is. She said HB 105 is a harmful bill that has no place in "freedom loving" Alaska; further, that many unsupported youths would not be able to get the required permission to use chosen names and pronouns and would have to spend their school days being something they are not.

[7:27:54 PM](#)

MICHELLE VASQUEZ, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that the bill was a threat to the safety and well-being of queer youth in public schools. She implored the committee to reject HB 105.

[7:28:34 PM](#)

MENEKA THIRU, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill would create an unsafe environment for trans and nonbinary students, adding that it was a violation of a student's right to privacy and safety.

[7:29:36 PM](#)

STEVEN FARRING, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that the bill was completely unnecessary, and that it targeted children for political gain.

[7:30:18 PM](#)

SHAWN GARDNER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She referenced kids who did not have a supportive family environment and offered a personal anecdote of a gay friend who had been kicked out of his home in high school.

[7:32:12 PM](#)

THEA SCALISE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that if the bill passed, it would add a barrier to comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education programs, which play a crucial role in keeping children safe. All children deserve to feel safe and protected in school, she said.

[7:33:45 PM](#)

ALANA BRANSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she was a healthcare provider, and that she and her younger sibling are transgender. She said the bill touched her professional and personal passions, as well as her expertise, and would "out" students who are transgender to their parents. Even trans kids with safe and accepting parents at home should be allowed the autonomy to have conversations about their identity in their own time, she opined.

[7:36:21 PM](#)

KALEB DAUGHERTY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that trans youth should feel safe and respected just like everyone else in their communities. The intentions of the bill were bad, he said, opining that the outcomes would be bad.

[7:37:39 PM](#)

SEAN PHILLIPS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He expressed concern that the bill would lead to suicides and pointed out that Alaska ranked second in the nation for suicides already. Additionally, he noted that Alaska was ranked first in sexual violence.

[7:39:22 PM](#)

OLIVIA EDWARDS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that the bill would harm already vulnerable LGBTQIA youths by forcibly "outing" them to their parents and infringing on basic privacy.

[7:40:11 PM](#)

BRITTANY QUALES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 because the bill was prejudicial. She believed that the kids would lose regardless of what side of the bill one was on.

[7:42:04 PM](#)

STEPHEN EDWARDS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 as a citizen of Alaska who cared about the way the government was run. He said he was dismayed that legislative time was being wasted on these bill hearings and asked the committee to work on something that mattered instead of "culture wars."

[7:44:33 PM](#)

ADAM HAYS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that he was bewildered as to why the bill was being prioritized and questioned the problem the bill sought to solve. If the governor really cared about the mental and physical health of students, he should be doing everything possible to support comprehensive age-appropriate sex education, he posited.

[7:47:01 PM](#)

KATHLEEN RAYMOND, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stressed her opposition to the governor's sponsor statement and urged the committee not to move the bill.

[7:48:50 PM](#)

KRISTINA VAN HOOGMOED, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill was "not right," and that it would create a lot more work for teachers.

[7:49:40 PM](#)

DR. ROBIN HOLMES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she stood in personal and professional opposition to HB 105. She said in many cases, an educator may

be the only trusted adult that kids have, adding that HB 105 would put children in jeopardy by forcing educators to disclose information that may cause (indisc.). She pointed out that parents already have the right to withhold education from their children if they choose. She urged the committee to protect the safety and dignity of Alaska's youth by opposing HB 105.

[7:51:51 PM](#)

The committee took an at-ease from 7:51 p.m. to 8:14 p.m.

[8:14:25 PM](#)

JESSICA ROZATO, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill was an overreach, cruel in scope and practice, and brought out the worst in humanity by bullying and erasing the young and most vulnerable of Alaska's communities. If the committee really wanted to protect children, she suggested background checks for those working around children; additionally, to focus on developing and funding higher education programs for teachers.

[8:16:14 PM](#)

NICHOLE BEARDEN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She expressed her disappointment that Alaska had joined many other states in attempting to pass anti-trans legislation. She said she did not stand behind staff members in school having to choose between "outing" a student or facing legal consequences. She said that school is sometimes the safest place for children to explore their gender identity and sexuality, and that children should not be stripped of their freedom.

[8:18:14 PM](#)

TODD WEHNES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, stating that it was a bill against communities' most vulnerable children.

[8:19:09 PM](#)

ELSTUN LAUESEN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said the bill title falsely implied that parents did not have rights and asserted that parents already have all the rights that they need to be involved in their kids' education. He opined that the bill would create conflict by targeting the

most vulnerable population of students. He defined HB 105 as disingenuous.

[8:21:28 PM](#)

KAIA BLOUNT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that the bill went directly against Bree's Law, which made efforts to educate and support children against dating violence. HB 105 would undermine Bree's Law by making teachers "jump through hoops" to teach basic lessons, she opined.

[8:23:54 PM](#)

DOMINIC SCALISE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that there were clearly no studies demonstrating harm to students receiving sex education or acknowledging gender identity. Legislating communication between parents and children is something that can only result in harm for those children in abusive homes, he said.

[8:25:30 PM](#)

BETH SHORT-RHOADS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she wished to address the sex education portion of the bill. Sex education teaches children how to be safe, not only from unwanted pregnancy but from abusive relationships, she said. Furthermore, sex education gives teens the tools to say no to sex.

[8:27:42 PM](#)

JESSICA GUANA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that parental rights in a child's education should never supersede a child's right to education. She explained that her parents had opted her out from receiving certain sex education even though she wanted to receive it. She said she felt the deficit of the course, which affected her in the long-term.

[8:29:22 PM](#)

ROBERT PATTERSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He urged the committee not to pass HB 105.

[8:30:22 PM](#)

GUS PAUL, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He reaffirmed that being LGBTQIA was not a choice. He said the bill would hinder economic success in Alaska and drive people away from the state who are looking to start families. He believed the bill would be a step backwards.

[8:31:44 PM](#)

DAVID LESLIE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said he was worried that the bill would not only make it more difficult for LGBTQIA teachers who are already facing difficulties, but also straight and (indisc.) gender parents with LGBTQIA children that would move out of state, further exasperating school staffing problems. Additionally, he believed that the bill could create hardships for indigenous students who use their traditional and often multiple names.

[8:34:12 PM](#)

RAE RAMOS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, and uses "they/them" pronouns. They began by explaining "gender dysphoria" and opined that the idea that trans kids are causing problems is fear mongering from people who don't understand. They pointed out that not all homes are safe homes, and that school is sometimes the safest place.

[8:36:35 PM](#)

EMILY COHEN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she worked for a mental health provider at a community center for children and adults. She said there was great risk for suicide and mental health issues because of the discrimination LGBTQIA receive. She urged the committee not to move the bill forward and instead, focus on preventing the high rates of child abuse and suicide in the state.

[8:37:58 PM](#)

JOHN LETTOW, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He stated that HB 105 further defined parental authority beyond the 1978 congressional protection that gives parents a right to inspect the curriculum being taught to their children. He added that HB 105 had been mischaracterized as discriminating against confused or alternative gender students. He believed that the bill would protect privacy and safety for all students.

[8:40:24 PM](#)

KELLY NASH, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She argued that 99 percent of kids had been forgetting about by testifiers, indicating that only trans kids were being addressed. She said parents just wanted to know what was being taught in school. She believed that everyone who opposed the bill had a bad agenda. She claimed that a young child who had testified earlier was likely "groomed," characterizing it as "disgusting." She reiterated her support for HB 105.

[8:41:30 PM](#)

MARY SZATKOWSKI, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said the actions proposed in HB 105 violate the privacy of LGBTQIA students (indisc.), their physical safety, and their mental health. She stated that she wished for students to be safe, respected, and happy, asserting that the bill would not support that.

[8:42:39 PM](#)

DAVID BOYLE, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He said he strongly supported parental rights. He shared his belief that educators only want parents involved in certain areas, adding that sex education was not one of them. He noted some testifiers believed that parents could not be trusted with their kids; however, if school staff suspects abuse, they are mandatory reporters by law. He acknowledged that kids don't always bring home notes for parents for various reasons, indicating that it would be no different for notification of sex education. It is vital that parents have the right to opt their child into sex education, he said.

[8:45:04 PM](#)

PAMELA HALL, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She expressed concern that only a small percentage of the population felt safe at school. She asked what about the girls, who outnumber the trans kids, who do not feel safe in restrooms or locker rooms. She added that she did not understand why people are so opposed to gender neutral bathrooms and locker rooms, emphasizing that girls cannot be stripped of their rights either. She said she had heard young adults stating they were bullied because they were trans; however, she asked about the other kids being bullied. She stated that she, her kids, and grandkids were all bullied, arguing that those who are not are the exception, or might be the bully.

[8:47:20 PM](#)

ALEX PETKANAS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. After hearing testimony, he observed that the bill was "wildly unpopular." Additionally, he believed the bill was dangerous because it would limit access to essential sex education information. He also noted the higher rates of suicides in trans individuals, and implored the committee to let the bill die, instead of letting children die.

[8:48:42 PM](#)

JO ANN GRUBER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She was of the understanding that the bill was written with the guise of safeguarding parental rights in a child's education. Instead, she said it appeared to be an attempt to weaken the state's public education system. If the bill passed, she opined that it would cost Alaska far more than what was listed in the fiscal note.

[8:50:25 PM](#)

SAGE WHITMAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He said he was a trans boy who was in school, and stated that he loved Alaska; however, bills like this made it harder for him to be successful and want to stay in the state.

[8:52:26 PM](#)

JAY HITCHCOCK, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He shared that he was a father of a trans child. He found the bill to be authoritarian and believed it was intended to turn citizens against citizens. If the bill passed, other rights would be stripped away next, he said.

[8:54:26 PM](#)

The committee took a brief at-ease at 8:54 p.m.

[8:55:53 PM](#)

DR. VALERIE BROOKS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared that she had several decades of experience as a public school educator, and that several students had come out to her as gender diverse. She said she honored their determination to live authentic lives. She opined

that the bill violated children's rights and urged the committee to stand against HB 105 and the discrimination it embodied.

[8:58:10 PM](#)

EMILY HARTLEY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, specifically on gender identity, she said. She stated that she was interested in the safety of trans people all around Alaska, adding that she was terrified of what HB 105 would do to the LGBTQIA+ youth in school.

[9:00:02 PM](#)

ERIN HOLLINGSWORTH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she has 20 years of experience working with children and teens and that most organizations invite family involvement. She emphasized that children are not property and must be trusted to find their way and find the mentors they need if they aren't available at home. She opined that the bill would not do anything to lift people up together.

[9:02:25 PM](#)

ELENA PRISSEKIN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she concurred with testimony that preceded hers, adding that had she not received education on bodily autonomy when she was in the first grade, she would not have recognized a sexual predator in her community. The bill could also hurt Alaska fiscally with potential and frivolous lawsuits, she said.

[9:03:36 PM](#)

ANALISE GOEDEKE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said not all young people have a safety net and offered her belief that the bill targeted and endangered LGBTQIA youths.

[9:04:50 PM](#)

JULIE SCHMIDT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said that she and her partner were retired teachers, and offered her belief that sex education should start at a young age and advance appropriately. She said as a teacher, she was a listener, supporter, counselor, and advocate, and opined that the bill would be harmful to students.

[9:06:56 PM](#)

MICHAEL FLINT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that he joined the military under the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, but before then, he did not have the support to help him navigate his path until he found what he needed in school, where he turned to a trusted adult. He opined that the bill was not about parental rights but about silencing queer and trans children, and "outing" them to a parent causing them further dehumanization.

[9:08:53 PM](#)

TAMARA KRUSE ROSELIUS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that requiring "opt-in" for sex education would overlook educating many students who need the information and don't have involved parents. She added that forcing teachers to "out" trans and non-gender conforming youths to their parents would harm students who are already at higher risk for self-harm.

[9:11:17 PM](#)

STACEY LANGE, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She expressed deep concern about the promotion of gender ideology that permeates public schools across the nation. She referred to a study in 2017 that found gender ideology to harm children, and urged educators and legislators to reject all policies that would condition children to accept "a life of chemical and surgical impersonation of the opposite sex" as normal. The fact youths are given puberty blocking drugs, she said, could ensure that they choose a lifetime of carcinogenic and otherwise toxic cross-sex hormones that could affect their mental and physical health.

[9:13:43 PM](#)

LAUREN BESKOW, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He expressed his belief that teachers need to teach, and parenting skills need to be left with the parents. He said the majority of parents know what's best [for their kids], adding that children are not slaves to their parents.

[9:15:24 PM](#)

YVONNE UMNER, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She opined that the bill would not do anything other than demand

that parents be allowed to know what their children's curriculum is. She added that it would allow teachers to withhold information if they thought the child's safety was in danger. She reported that transgender identity could lead to suicide and believed that parents and families were moving to states where parent's rights were upheld.

[9:18:06 PM](#)

TITUS SOFRON, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. She offered religious references and spoke on the subject of child molestation [indisc].

[9:20:24 PM](#)

KELLI REED, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105 and shared that they preferred they/them pronouns. They said that since age five, they knew that they were not their biological sex and could speak volumes of what could happen to trans kids in families that are unsupportive. They opined that introducing a bill like this could overburden a school system that was already behind. They opined that the the bill was intended to align Alaska with a far-right ideology that had been indoctrinated.

[9:23:03 PM](#)

ALICIA SIDEBOTTOM, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that HB 105 was discriminator, targeted LGBTQIA youths, and puts children in danger; furthermore, it would make teachers' jobs more difficult. She added that the bill would require an unrealistic amount of permission slips that would be burdensome for all.

[9:24:55 PM](#)

CARLY JENSEN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She expressed her belief that the bill directly violated Article 1, Section 1, Section 22, and Section 3 of the Alaska Constitution. She gave an example of a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) violation involving a doctor who told parents about aa child's sexual history, stressing that the doctor would be in direct violation of federal law. She shared her understanding that school counselors were also considered medical professionals. She added that she did not agree with the wording in the bill,

adding that schools would be burdened by the proposed legislation.

[9:27:20 PM](#)

JOHN OSTERHOUT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that being he was a supervisor at an emergency shelter, he had seen firsthand runaway and homeless youth, and he knows school for many kids is sometimes the only safe place that they have to go. If kids lose the safety net of school, he said, they could be put in direct harm.

[9:30:02 PM](#)

VALINA HANSEN, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She opined that HB 105 promoted appropriate parental authority and safety for all in public schools.

[9:31:02 PM](#)

DIANNE MACRAE, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She expressed her concern with hearing that teachers have more say, which she found scary. She said family is very important and the fact must be addressed that parents need to know what is going on.

[9:33:22 PM](#)

PRISCILLA HURLEY, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. She stated that she wished to make one major point about responsibility. She believed that parents, not the state school system, were responsible for the burden and joy of their children,

[9:35:55 PM](#)

KASSANDRA SMILEY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the government should not dictate what people can (indisc.). She believed that Alaska used to be a place of personal liberty, and that the bill was one of government overreach.

[9:36:53 PM](#)

LIZ LYKE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that kids can come out as trans to accepting peers and asked "not to make life hell" for kids by passing HB 105.

[9:37:40 PM](#)

MAREN MILLER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She believed that the reason for public testimony was to talk about the real-world effects of the bill. As for sex education, she pointed out parents already have the right to "opt out." She asserted that putting the burden on teachers and parents to "opt in" would be burdensome and harder for children to get the education they need. She added that the bill would "out" trans youths to their parents, opining that the only bills that should pass should support the most vulnerable populations.

[9:40:00 PM](#)

SARAH SULLIVAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered a personal example of her experiences in Fairbanks, Alaska, where a friend who was being abused by her father found a teacher that she could confide in. She stated that she would be disgusted if that opportunity was taken away from children. She opined that the bill target a group of children who face more discrimination and asked the committee to "get rid of this bill."

[9:41:40 PM](#)

SIQIINQ MAUPIN, Director, Sovereign Inupiat for a Living Arctic, Testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she grew up in an unsafe home, and if HB 105 had been enacted at the time, she may not be here today. Should the bill pass, she believed that it could increase sexual assault against children. She said HB 105 should be treated as gender-based discrimination.

[9:43:33 PM](#)

RANDI IVERSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared her shock that the bill was even being considered. She added that when she came to Alaska, she thought it was a place where one could express total freedom. She opined that the bill was discriminatory against all Alaskan citizens and urged the committee to stop the bill.

[9:46:06 PM](#)

SHANE BRODIE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. They identified with the LGTBQIA community, sharing that their parents and other relatives were former teachers in the

Northwest Arctic Borough. The bill would oppress a minority community and bully fellow Alaskans, they said, opining that ever freedom-loving Alaskan should oppose HB 105.

[9:47:29 PM](#)

SHARON HEIN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She expressed her concerns that the bill would remove safety in the school environment for all children. She added that the bill was bad for children, parents, and for the educational system.

[9:48:24 PM](#)

SAMANTHA THOMAS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stressed her opposition to the vague language in the bill and believed that the legislation could be used to manipulate people. If passed, she asked how one could legislate such a law, which she characterized as an unnecessary burden and anti-Alaskan.

[9:49:36 PM](#)

AARON SPRATT, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He offered his understanding that the bill upheld and promoted parental rights. He said he trusted that the committee would do what's right and objectively good, and shared his support for Section 6 of the bill.

[9:52:03 PM](#)

DENILE AULT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered a personal anecdote of a time in school when she could not start in a program because her father and mother didn't approve of it. The bill would traumatize non-conforming gender students, she opined.

[9:54:49 PM](#)

MARK AAMODT, Representing Self, testified during the hearing on HB 105. He believed that there were good points on both sides.

[9:57:12 PM](#)

BRITTANY TOMKINS, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She offered her belief that more transparency was needed in the school systems between faculty, the school board, and

parents. She supported kids being protected in reference to bathrooms and locker rooms, and that parents should be able to see the sex education curriculum.

[9:58:30 PM](#)

AMY RODMAN, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She stated that she supported open communication between schools and parents regarding a child's well-being. She argued that children under 18 were not fully developed emotionally or physically and needed guidance. Additionally, she acknowledged that some children come from dysfunctional families. She agreed that locker rooms and bathrooms needed to be separated by biological sex, adding that it would be unfair for a safe space to be provided to one child but not another.

[10:00:45 PM](#)

LISA BRICKER, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that the bill would force trans students into silence, and she stated that teachers did not get into education to "speak their way into a lawsuit" by calling a child by another name. She added that overstressed and overworked parents would have extra pressure regarding the return of all permission slips.

[10:02:13 PM](#)

DANIEL TWEEDY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, and stated that the legislature should oppose it too.

[10:02:39 PM](#)

CHANDRA COFFROY, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She said the relationship between parents, teachers, and students needed to be strengthened and the bill would help accomplish that. She referenced funding for public schools and said it would be detrimental to have students leave the public school system.

[10:04:22 PM](#)

CLAUDIA HAINES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. Specifically, she said, HB 105 would put all kids and teens at higher risk for sexual assault and trafficking. Without access to comprehensive sex education, young people lack critical information to keep themselves and their communities

safe. She opined that the bill would create barriers to families and would not improve parental rights, as parents already have the option to opt their children out at any time.

[10:06:38 PM](#)

JACLYN GAGNON, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She stated that she was calling as a mother who cared about knowing what her children are taught in school. She believed that the responsibility relied solely on the parents even if there are supportive teachers and counselors. She added that she thought permission slips were a vital part of school activities, and school should be a safe space for all students, especially in the locker rooms and bathrooms.

[10:08:31 PM](#)

GEORGE SNODGRASS, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He offered his belief that the bill protected the rights of parents and their children in school. From listening to the testimony tonight, he gathered that people think that parents are against the teachers; however, he argued that teachers and parents should work as partners in educating children. He opined that it is not what is being taught, but how it is being taught, and that the lack of transparency would be improved by the passage of HB 105.

[10:10:55 PM](#)

DANA THYNES, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She asked how it was possible for parents to trust their local schools when administrators, teachers, and staff treat them like the enemy. Each year, she said, more parents in Alaska decide not to put their kids in public schools because of fear of an agenda to sexualize children at younger ages. She hoped the passage of HB 105 would return some autonomy to parents and stated that everyone should have a voice.

[10:12:48 PM](#)

GAIL MCBRIDE, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She said she had heard mischaracterization and much deviating from what the bill actually addressed. Families are the foundation of society, she said, and parents care more than anyone about their children. She believed that nothing could be worse than teachers conspiring with children to deceive the parents. She stressed her support for everything in the bill.

[10:15:07 PM](#)

CHAVA SCHAPIRA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105, indicating that there was nothing in the bill that protected children, parents, or anyone. She opined that queer and trans people have always existed and will continue to exist and that they should not be stopped from trying to get an education. Further, she believed that the bill would encourage people to leave Alaska.

[10:17:21 PM](#)

AMANDA SPRATT, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She expresses her opinion that sex education was not merely teaching children about their changing bodies, reproduction, and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). The new programs, she believed, promote an ideology at odds with purity, decency, and even proof. She opined that a focus on students' sexuality has no place in education, adding that sexual preferences should remain private, and not be discussed or celebrated in school settings where parents send their children to school to be academically educated.

[10:19:49 PM](#)

WILL MULDOON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He referred to previous testifiers who brought up the dismantling of Bree's Law, which was his primary concern with the bill.

[10:20:55 PM](#)

ASA PENDERGRAST, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He gave personal examples of children who were excluded by their parents when they found out their children were gay or trans, emphasizing his opposition to HB 105.

[10:23:00 PM](#)

KEVIN BERRY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He paraphrased a passage from the catechism that LGBTQIA people should be accepted with respect, compassion and sensitivity. He opined that HB 105 was clearly discriminatory, adding that schools needed resources and money, not controversial laws that invite lawsuits.

[10:23:56 PM](#)

JAMES SQUYRES, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He stated that he had been watching public testimony, claiming that Planned Parenthood and others were trying to "stack the deck" with testimony in opposition to the bill on Twitter. He said he did not agree with Planned Parenthood.

[10:24:25 PM](#)

MARGIE THOMSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she had been a gender therapist for the past 10 years and had worked with over 300 individuals and families throughout the state. She believed that even the introduction in the bill could cause fear that may result in the suicide of a student who feels unsafe at home or at school. She asked the legislature to respect students and their gender identity and the privacy to come out at their own timing.

[10:25:48 PM](#)

BILL SPENCER, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He referred to a previous testifier who stated that there should be background checks for school employees for student safety. The bill, he opined, would bring common sense back to the classroom and was a well worded bill. He added that not all parents are going to be involved in their children's education, but the ones who are, have the right to know what is going on in the classroom.

[10:28:02 PM](#)

IVAN HODES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. As a former educator, he stated that he agreed with previous testifiers who spoke in opposition to HB 105. He opined that the bill was a mechanism for suppressing the rights of sexual and gender minorities in this country.

[10:30:02 PM](#)

KACYA BATISHCHEVA, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She offered her belief that the bill would harm queer youth in Alaska. She explained that as a queer youth in her home country, there were no adults to go to for support. She said she did not want anyone to experience such alienation.

[10:32:25 PM](#)

GUY HARRIS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He gave a personal example of his childhood and expressed his deep opposition to HB 105.

[10:34:18 PM](#)

KATE JOHNSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill did not represent the values and views of Alaska. She said she had a particular concern with the erosion of the sex education at public schools. She stated that children should not be made to be more vulnerable than they already are.

[10:35:28 PM](#)

JULEE-ANNA PREUIT, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She focused on youth sex education and said she was worried that teachers would no longer be viewed as trusted adults if they have to "out" someone. She added that she would not want to be sued if she could not be that trusted adult.

[10:37:04 PM](#)

EPHRAIM FROEHLICH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He opined that the bill was a harmful policy directed at the state's most at-risk youths and brought shame upon all of Alaska. The bill would perpetuate harm on a new generation and withhold proper education, he said.

[10:39:01 PM](#)

KATHY MILLER, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She offered her belief that "opting in" was a better choice for parents and believed that people were trying to divide the family by not allowing parents to "opt in" to certain things. She gave an example of her child coming home to tell her that the class learned something that she was completely opposed to. She shared her belief that some classes should not be "blanket classes," and that schools should be in the business of teaching children.

[10:41:20 PM](#)

LISA MALONEY, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She pointed out that not all childhood homes are safe, and that schools are a critically important safety net for at-risk

children. She opined that the bill would reduce that safety net by making it harder for all children to receive age-appropriate information on how their bodies work and how to keep themselves healthy and safe.

[10:43:47 PM](#)

JOHN CREED, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He opined that the bill is anti LGBTQIA legislation.

[10:45:29 PM](#)

MAE MARSH, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She gave her background as a former Title IX officer and administrator and explained that she encountered educators who believed they had a right to counsel students regarding abuse and keep the discussions confidential, which was not allowed under federal law. Although this was for college students, and HB 105 addressed grades K-12, parents are ultimately responsible for their children and have a right to know what is going on, she said. She asserted that Title IX and anti-discrimination laws were in place in educational institutions and that parents should not be blocked.

[10:47:56 PM](#)

SKYLAR EVANS, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He opined that the bill was an additional pressure that would hurt Alaska's schools and educators in preparing youth for the reality of life; further, he believed the bill would make teachers dehumanize the youth of Alaska. He offered personal examples of being a source of strength for different students dealing with abusive relationships. He added that sex education was not a "tawdry thing."

[10:50:24 PM](#)

OLIVER BERGH, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He offered examples of different religious practices, opining that the proposed legislation should not be enacted.

[10:52:12 PM](#)

IRENE QUEDNOW, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She believed that parents have a right to know what is being taught to their children. She defined "groomer" as someone who isolates children from their family and friends, as

well as keeping secrets with minors. She clarified that she did not think teachers are groomers; however, she characterized teachers who keep secrets from parents as a "warning light."

[10:54:33 PM](#)

EARL WILLIAMS JR., Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. He stated that he opposed the bill and asked the legislature not to vote for it.

[10:54:57 PM](#)

SONAZ SAFARI, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that Alaska was committed to personal freedoms and rights and found it concerning that such a bill was being considered. She stressed healthy sex education, which could prevent a variety of problems students may experience.

[10:57:00 PM](#)

HANNAH WARREN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated her concern that if the bill passed, LGBTQIA youth would be opened up to bullying and could have their safe space taken away. "Opting in" for sex education, she said, could cause unnecessary barriers and could lead to STDs and pregnancy [without experiencing a healthy sex education].

[10:58:32 PM](#)

REBECCA AMES, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she would speak specifically to the section that required written permission from a parent to use a different name or pronoun for a child at a school. She believed that the provision could put many trans, non-binary, and non-gender conforming children in danger at home, and that school should be a safe place for an already vulnerable population.

[10:59:33 PM](#)

ALEX BARSEKIAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She said she worked in reproductive healthcare, adding that comprehensive sex education in schools was a "must" to help teens make informed decisions throughout their lives. She stressed that school should be a safe place for all students.

[11:00:40 PM](#)

EMILY SULLIVAN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill, which was being touted as a parental rights bill, targeted trans and queer rights and would make school an even less safe place for them.

[11:02:29 PM](#)

EMILY GEBEL, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She offered her belief that HB 105 quantified principles that had always been part of natural law. She added that she found the testimony expressing the notion that parents are not the best guardians for their children to be appalling. She believed that keeping secrets encouraged grooming and that successful kids had involved parents. She expressed concern about girls having a safe space in school. If the bill did not pass, she opined that a trend of Alaska leading the nation in sexual abuse would be supported.

[11:04:34 PM](#)

ERICA WATSON, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that as an educator, targeting vulnerable young people was a bad idea and wanted to add her voice in solidarity to the other testifiers.

[11:06:04 PM](#)

SCOTT HANSEN, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He expressed his belief that children were born to families, not to the state, and that parents held moral and legal responsibility for their children. He opined that the bill would strengthen the authority of parents to make responsible decisions for their children.

[11:07:24 PM](#)

JAN DELAND, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She opined that the bill would implement common sense guidelines to protect children. She stated that she is very involved with her four children's education, noting that she also grew up in the public school system in Anchorage. She relayed stories of "inappropriate" behavior by teachers toward students and stressed that parents have responsibility towards their children.

[11:09:49 PM](#)

KRISTEN SCHUPP, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill was punitive to students, educators, and school districts, and that children are independent humans who deserve respect. She argued that if a child feels more comfortable being themselves at school, it's the fault of the parent, adding that educators should not be penalized for that. She opined that the bill was legislative overreach.

[11:11:43 PM](#)

EMMANUEL HANSEN, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He offered personal stories of he and his siblings' negative experiences and agreed with prior testifier's thoughts on grooming. He stressed his support for the bill and parental rights, adding that he questioned the sanity of the school system and what they "push" for.

[11:13:56 PM](#)

MICHALE RATZLAFF, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stressed the importance of parents, and urged the committee to recognize that children are people, not possessions, with the right to self-expression. She opposed requiring teachers to tell parents things that might put their children at risk.

[11:15:54 PM](#)

SUMMER ANDERSEN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She opined that the bill was vaguely written, deeply homophobic, and opened schools up to controversy and lawsuits. She said the bill was unnecessary and should not take up so much time.

[11:17:04 PM](#)

LOIS EPSTEIN, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She shared her belief that there had been no evidence of the need for the changes contained in the bill. She opined that the adverse consequences for some children could potentially lead to suicides. She shared her understanding that the bill may also contain constitutional problems related to privacy. She stressed her disappointment with the governor and legislators who support the bill and urged the legislature to reconsider.

[11:18:43 PM](#)

MEG WAITE, Representing Self, testified in opposition to HB 105. She stated that she believed in the separation of church and state and protecting First Amendment rights of all citizens, not just a select few. Public education, she said, is a place to learn new ideas and set goals. She expressed concern that the bill would create barriers for students experiencing abuse, and noted her concern with Section 6 of the bill.

[11:21:18 PM](#)

IRIS WILLIAMS, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. She stated that she agreed with the language in the bill. She asserted that parents, as guardians of their children, have the right to decide what is best for their children. She added that there should be transparency in public schools and opined that parents have the right to know what their kids are being taught. She added that parents should not have to worry about an educational system being deceptive about their own children.

[11:23:29 PM](#)

JASON ROBINSON, Representing Self, testified in support of HB 105. He expressed his confusion as to how the bill targets the LGBTQIA community and said the bill would increase the rights of active, responsible parents. He stressed his agreement with the language and intent of the bill. He acknowledged that some youths have had bad experiences at home; however, he was concerned that those experiences could limit the rights of active and loving parents.

[11:25:49 PM](#)

CO-CHAIR ALLARD reminded the public that testimony could be emailed to the committee. She sought final comment from committee members.

[11:26:03 PM](#)

REPRESENTATIVE HIMSCHOOT thanked everyone who testified. She stressed the importance of parents knowing what was going on in school, and for all to feel welcome in school.

REPRESENTATIVE MCCORMICK stated that he was impressed by the eloquence of the young people who took the time to testify.

REPRESENTATIVE STORY thanked everyone who called in and stated that it was important for people to express their feelings. She added that parents should be aware that they can always review curriculum and "opt out."

REPRESENTATIVE PRAX expressed appreciation for all the heartfelt testimony on HB 105. He encouraged parents to get involved in the conversation and to check out the curriculum.

CO-CHAIR RUFFRIDGE stated how positive it was to hear all the feelings and thoughts of Alaskans.

[11:31:38 PM](#)

CO-CHAIR ALLARD wished to let parents and educators know that the legislature supports them. She encouraged them to keep "sounding off," and to keep teaching. She noted that public testimony would remain open.

CO-CHAIR ALLARD announced that HB 105 was held over.

[11:32:15 PM](#)

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the committee, the House Education Standing Committee meeting was adjourned at 11:32 p.m.