



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY HAYEK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AMERICA FIRST WORKS		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS:		
CITY: WASHINGTON		STATE: DC ZIP: 20004
EMAIL: ahayek@americafirstworks.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

By having transparency in public education, we expose progressive policies that enable a curriculum of patently dishonest and activist-driven information about the U.S. and our founding. We must give every parent the right to see all curriculum materials, and encourage schools to teach basic skills that prepare students for life as adults. By focusing on these areas, we can help restore our public education system so it provides more choice, prepares students for lives as productive citizens, and instills our next generation with a full understanding of America's values and heritage. The bill combines multiple aspects of what constitutes pro-parent policies ranging from financial and curriculum transparency to ensuring patriotic education is provided to both teachers and students.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARITY MIDDLETON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LINDA USELMANN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY FABER		PHONE NUMBER: 573-480-2704	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI BAPTIST CONVENTION		TITLE: DR.	
ADDRESS: 292 FAITH BLVD			
CITY: LAURIE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65037
EMAIL: tfaber@mobaptist.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 9:18 PM	

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We heartily support the "fundamental right of a parent to make decisions regarding the upbringing and control" of their children. Since parents may be held responsible for the well-being of their children in physical, mental, and emotional states, it stands to reason that the parents must have a right to make decisions regarding their children. We encourage the committee to combine this bill with HB 627 and HB 482.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABBY L. MUELLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALAN MCFANN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: erudite.al@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 10:11 AM

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Stop trying to erase non-heterosexual people and stop hurting the mental health of children. Y'all are disgusting Christian hypocrites.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALLISON ADLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ajadler5@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 4:07 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I don't believe this amendment supports parental rights at all. Instead, it's more big government telling our local schools and local elected school boards what they can and can't teach our children. We've already told our school what we want them to teach by electing school board members who share our values and know our community. This is just more big government trying to get in the way of our rights. Why is the Missouri state government trying to tell our schools and our parents what can and can't be taught? Us parents should get to decide that, NOT the Missouri government. This is in no way supportive of parental rights.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALLISON ROBB		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: allison.robb.work@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 10:29 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

When I was a kid, I went to a Catholic school where the unspoken policy was this level of "Don't Say Gay". If LGBT issues and people were mentioned at all, it was solely in condemnation. I barely knew anyone who identified as so much as bisexual until adulthood. I grew up depressed, near suicidal at times, and wondering what the hell was wrong with me. I had no words to express how I was feeling, *why* I hated the way "boyish" hairstyles looked on me, why every time I looked in the mirror everything looked wrong. I had always considered myself a cisgendered, straight person. And because I didn't have the language to question that effectively, I was miserable. Because I'm not a cisgendered, straight person. When I was twenty-eight, I came to understand that I was transgender. I started on hormones as soon as I was able to and, within a few months, the depression cleared. I was no longer suicidal. My quality of life improved dramatically, and I was able to focus, take interest in things I was previously numb to. As further evidence of that fact, the one time I went off them for a few weeks due to a scheduling mishap, I quickly dropped right back down to where I had been the year before. Starting on HRT saved my life. Like all other medicine, it fixed the problem that no amount of therapy or soul-searching could. To those of you considering the bill who are true believers, who earnestly believe the assertions of opinion columnists and church leaders preaching fire and brimstone, I beg you to understand that this bill protects nothing. It's demonizing innocent people for political gain and contributing to the depression and suicidality of minors who have to grow up not understanding why they're so depressed trying to live life as a cisgendered or heterosexual person, or worse, grow up fearing that the government of the state of Missouri is going to criminalize them as one last dying gasp of an ideology that refuses to change. Those of you who vote in support of it or any of the other dozens of anti-LGBT bills currently under consideration will not be remembered as the righteous victors, you'll be remembered the same way that we remember those who stood against civil rights whose work was ultimately undone in the name of a better, more equitable society. To those of you who know those facts, but will support this bill regardless for fear of political backlash from your peers or for easy "I'm the most conservative on this issue" fundraising, all I can say is don't act surprised when the devil welcomes you home. Claiming your faith demands you vote this way will not save you from the fire and brimstone you've earned for the pain you're going to cause without a second of remorse. Christ never said a single word about lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans or any other queer person, so don't pass the buck for your actions. This bill can fail now by taking a stand for people who do not have a voice in the Missouri legislature, or it can be undone by a later generation that remembers its supporters as monsters. But it *will* fail in the long run. The only question is how many people its passage will hurt in the long run.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMANDA MICHEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amanda.michel@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 8:44 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill is bigotry, plain and simple. I support the LGBTQ community, parents, teachers, and students.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMBER KEMPF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: amberlee203@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 1:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to HB 634. How disappointing that instead of focusing on Missouri's various real problems such as poor infrastructure, underpaid teachers, underfunded public education, and the basic lack of protections for its citizens human right, Ms. Kelley and the Republican Party feels the need to dictate to parents what facts and history that their children can and cannot learn. This type of oppressive laws serves no purpose other than to allow simple ignorance to continue to foster discrimination in our state.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMBER WITHYCOMBE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: awithycombe@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 12:34 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I write in opposition to House Bill 634. I am the parent of two queer teenagers, one of whom is transgender. I am also an elected school board member in St. Louis County. As a school board member, I ask you to consider how this bill harms educators. Along with similar legislation that seeks to defund public schools, drive wedges between parents and teachers in the name of transparency, and ban teaching about race, this bill creates a hostile environment for teachers. It restricts their ability to help students see themselves in their learning. It disrespects their professional autonomy, and, in many cases, asks them to deny their own identities. It prevents them from affirming and valuing all students. I know this committee is aware of our critical teacher shortage in Missouri. An alarming number of educators are leaving the profession because of low pay and draining workplace conditions, not the least of which is the politicization of their work. With our state already ranking near the bottom nationally in school funding and teacher pay, HB 634 will contribute to Missouri's declining economic viability. Please, let's focus together on the real issues we're facing in K-12 education. This bill, which was not written by Missourians, does nothing to address those needs. As a parent, I ask you to consider how this bill harms my children. It will prohibit them from writing about themselves in class. It will deny them the opportunity to see themselves represented in literature, history, drama, even their foreign language studies. It will prevent them from receiving health education that is relevant to their bodies and their safety. It will discourage them from reporting harassment or bullying. Instead, HB 634 will create an unsafe school environment for my children. It will tell them that they should feel shame about who they are. That they are undeserving of support and affirmation from their school community. That in spite of my unconditional celebration of their identities, they will be erased in the very spaces where they should feel safest and most connected. Don't force that on my community. Please, protect my parental rights and stop looking for ways to harm my children. Vote no on HB 634.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY GRYDER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ajgryder@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 2:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is an overreach and will put some of our most vulnerable students in further jeopardy by eliminating a safe space with their teachers and school officials. Abusers could be protected by the medical procedure provision as well. Stop with the rights infringements of our vulnerable populations who are just in need of protection.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY HAMMERMAN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-993-5181
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OF ST. LOUIS		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 295 NORTH LINDBERGH BOULEVARD		
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63141
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY SONDERMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ajsonderman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 12:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill limits my parental rights to have my children taught scientific and historical **FACTS**. Any parent can and should, in the morning comfort of their home, discuss how those facts make them feel or fit with their personal religious beliefs. Legislators should not limit what facts teachers can teach nor what books my child can read. Additionally, this sort of interference is only worsening the teacher shortage crisis.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANDREW REICH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: areich11@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 7:38 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Nearly 20% of Gen Z identifies with some part of the LGBTQi community and this is nothing but a clear attempt to demonize, ostracize, and shame students into rejecting their identities. There is no LGBTQ "agenda" or "curriculum" being taught by teachers in this state. However, there is a very real agenda being executed by religious extremists to try to erase, intimidate, and exclude law-abiding, tax paying, LGBTQ Missourians. This bill is bigotry and close-mindedness put into law.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ANDREW RODRIGUEZ DAMSGAARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANICA RASO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rasoahjmu@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 12:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am an LGBTQ teacher in Kansas City Public Schools and I am horrified and disgusted that THIS is what we are worried about. Our students are in CRISIS after COVID. I teach 2nd grade and my students came to me UNABLE TO READ AT 7-8 YEARS OLD. PLEASE, worry about what MATTERS. If we could "indoctrinate" these kids, they would follow directions the first time and they would listen to instruction. I promise you that we don't have time for this. You are so out of touch with what is actually happening in our schools. SHAME ON YOU. SHAME.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ANNIE BERNAIX		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: anniebernaix@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 5:39 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
As a parent, educator, and community member, I wholeheartedly oppose this bill and support students.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 11:24 PM

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I am Opposed to this Bill. This Bill has good measures, bad practices and sketchy Legislation.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARTHUR SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: artsmithenfrspt@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 5:19 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Arthur Smith. He himl live in Independence, MissouriI serve on the worldwide leadership team for Community of Christ, an international religious denomination headquartered in Independence, Missouri. My daughter, who I am so proud of, is a 25 year old transgender woman. I am disheartened by the long list of bills targeting the LGBT community this session. I'm afraid that it's not a good look for Missouri and that our reputation nationally and internationally has already been damaged. I know that within the Trans community it feels like an all out attack. So much of this bill is vague, apparently trying to legislate someone's idea of general best practices, and elevating parent complaints to the state level. It seems to encourage overreaction and to create convoluted bureaucracy. The paragraph that stands out, of course, is the one that says:4. No classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties relating to sexual orientation or gender identity shall occur.For goodness sake! These are basic topics that are fundamental to a person being able to live in today's world. I wish that all of our Missouri legislators had received a little more basic instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity. Maybe we wouldn't be in this mess. Our schools have teachers of different sexual orientations and gender identities. They are not scandalous people who should never be spoken of. Our schools have students of all sorts of sexual orientations and gender identities. Missouri children and teenagers should not be taboo. If we are to build a respectful, civil society, then kids need to learn about the diversity of adults in our communities and they need to learn to talk about their friends and neighbors in respectful, civil ways. Making these topics taboo in our schools will promote ignorance instead of education and suspicion in our society, instead of unity.Schools are for education, not for keeping secrets about such important and fundamental aspects of what it is to be human. I urge you to vote against this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ASHLEY ANN O'DANIEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: aaodaniel@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 8:44 PM

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As a parent and educator, this law violates student's human rights & is a threat to a student's education. I strongly oppose this bill.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BEATRICE HESSEL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Overgrwn.gard2n@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 4:08 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I believe that prohibiting the mention of sexual orientation in schools by teaches and third parties is a bad decision for our schools and for the education of our children. If this bill is to pass it will end in big parts of certain curriculums being left out of lessons leading to an unclear or inaccurate understanding of what is being taught. On top of this these changes could end in children not having access to certain materials concerning sexual orientation, possibly some parts of sex education or personal discussions of identity with school councilors. Though there are probably more problems that could arise with the passing of this bill that I have not considered I think the points I have delivered are proof enough that we should scrap this bill altogether or at least postpone the passing of this bill and re-work it.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BECKI UCCELLO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: piximama2010@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 4:30 PM

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My name is Becki Uccello, and I recently retired from teaching public school students. I spent my entire 25 years with junior high students. My college advisor had told me before I settled on a major: "Love your subject. Love your students. Everything else will fall into place." I learned quickly that establishing relationships with students was important. Most students want to connect positively with their educators. When teachers and students have a positive relationship, learning happens. Learning progresses. I have seen that with my daughter Izabella She will work for a teacher who has connected with her. If she feels disconnected with a teacher, she feels disconnected with her learning. As human beings, this is a normal phenomenon. A year ago, I had a student who was born female and identifies as male. I had long ago decided that as an educator, it is my job to educate, not judge. This student has always felt that he is male. He was a member of the speech and debate team and shared with me his speech about trans rights, for which he placed in competition. He received little support at home from his mom and stepdad. His biological dad supported this student, but distance had made it hard for them to connect at times. This student initially approached me early in the school year to thank me for making my classroom feel like a safe place to learn. I didn't feel like I had done anything special...I feel like all classrooms should feel safe. I tried to foster a sense of inclusion in my classroom because I know that's important to students, in addition to being part of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, which is something all pre-teachers learn about. To be clear, this student approached me. This student felt safe in my classroom. This student sought to feel like he belonged. This student's grades improved because his needs were being met. I was never out to convert nor to judge anyone. I just wanted my students to be successful. I oppose this bill because it will put teachers like me in a position to keep students at arms length when it comes to their lives. If students do not make a connection, if they don't feel safe, if they don't feel like they belong, they may not invest in their own learning. Besides, we as human beings live together in community. We interact with people from all walks and ways of life. Perhaps if we modeled this better in a school community, we would have less hostility in real life.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BETH NEWMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: bethemilynewman@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 12:02 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Beth Newman and I live in St Louis. I work in the field of special education, I come to you in strong opposition to House bill 634. I'm a speech language therapist with over 20 years of experience working with children. For the past 6 years, I have had the privilege to work almost exclusively with high school students. My job is a bit different than classroom teachers. Unlike classroom teachers, a lot of my interaction with students occurs in small groups and even individual sessions. After you work with students one on one or in small groups year after year, a strong rapport and trust often develops. It's one of the things I love best about working with my teenage students. As you know, teenagers are incredibly complex, at the core of that complexity is a need to understand the world around them and communicate their knowledge. The teenagers I work with are the ones who sometimes have difficulty communicating. This can look like a lot of different things at the high school level. Sometimes it looks like not understanding vocabulary words used in a classroom text, sometimes it looks like having a hard time re-telling a story, and sometimes it looks like not understanding a peer or teachers' use of an idiom or metaphor. My time spent working with my students is often centered on helping my students understand a novel, re-tell a story, or understand figurative language. But sometimes. It's different. Sometimes they reveal more. They may want to tell me about who they are, who they like, who they identify as, what troubles them, or what brings them joy. HB 634 states on line 29: This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit voluntary counseling. But I'm not a counselor. I am, however, a trusted adult in my students' lives. An adult that they sometimes confide in, an adult that they sometimes- like many teenagers- just want to talk to. The way the current legislation is written, if one of my students brought up their sexual orientation or gender identity I would be required to tell them: Stop communicating with me. I can't speak with you about this. This is a violation of my professional code of ethics. American Speech Language Hearing Association Code of Ethics Principle of Ethics Part I, under part C When I tell my students "you can't talk to me about your sexual orientation or gender identity", it's akin to discrimination. Let's be honest, this legislation is not being written to target heteronormative discussions. I won't give pause when one of my heteronormative students wants to confide in me. This is about shutting down discussions of our students who identify as LGBTQIA+. Allow me to leave you with one final, very explicitly communicated message: House bill 634 prevents me from communicating with my LGBTQIA+ students in the same way I might communicate with my heterosexual, cisgender students. This is a direct violation of my professional code of ethics. My example is just one of the many problematic issues with this bill but perhaps one that you've never thought of previously. There will always be holes and problems with this type of legislation because you can't legislate these kids away. And you can't legislate this community away. Thank you for your time.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIANNA MULLALLY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mullallyfamspam@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:35 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I graduated in a class of less than 100 people. Most of those I'd known a majority of my life. We experienced ups and downs, new adventures, and learned to navigate very important years of our lives together. We laughed, we cried, and sometimes we knew each other better than we knew ourselves. We grew up in a very small, majority Christian, conservative town. There wasn't room for outsiders or lifestyles we didn't understand. Not always intentionally, but as a byproduct of our upbringing and simply being sheltered from life's realities. There were a few people in our class that we sensed were holding things back, but they hid behind charades, knowing how our town would perceive them. You could tell in their mannerisms and personalities they were not being fully true to themselves, but how do you approach that topic when you're not sure they realize it? We graduated, and most of us left our small town. We gained experiences and insights that challenged our deeply held beliefs (which weren't even that deep, just what we knew). We questioned ourselves, each other, and how we were raised. Then, the most magical thing began happening little by little. People began accepting themselves for who they actually were, not who they were expected to be. Classmates changed career paths, political affiliations, some came out of the closet or embraced their real identity. We learned and continued to grow. Some of these classmates weren't who I hung out with in high school, but are now some of the people I respect the most because we've sat down and had hard conversations, challenged beliefs, and created a network of empathy and compassion. Those classmates from earlier I mentioned that were hiding who they were? When they came out, they began to FLOURISH. Entire demeanors changed. Standing taller, smiling larger, eyes twinkling, absolutely glowing. They began pursuing their dreams and passions. Pouring that into themselves, their friends, and their communities. They weren't able to do that before they moved away because many of them would not have been safe at home if their parents knew. Looking at our state history of child services, I can see why they would keep their mouths shut since chances are no one would be there to protect them. Looking back, I realize they had adults somewhere in our lives that subtly let them know they were safe. They were accepted as they were. I can probably pinpoint which teachers they were, because they made me feel the same as a straight white female. Unfortunately, there were not enough, and it was not soon enough. I cannot imagine the things that would have been accomplished if they had been shown that support earlier and more consistently in their lives. They say as you get older, you get more conservative, so I guess I'm going against the grain. The more I get out and experience the world, the more I believe we can do better, and we need to support everyone where they're at. Compassion and empathy go a long way, but it's lacking in huge chunks of the country because of beliefs we hold too tightly and refuse to challenge. Watching how the world was changing since I graduated used to give me a lot of hope for the future. Kids knew they were safe and accepted. They were able to come into themselves earlier and build that life they wanted without having to leave their town to do it. We were progressing and making huge changes. Then it all came crumbling down. These kids are being attacked and silenced for simply

being themselves. They're told they're not worthy, they're less than others, they don't deserve any rights or protections. Teachers soon won't be allowed to tell them they're safe and accepted. Things are going to get ugly and lives are going to be ruined. It breaks my heart knowing the potential they could have is being stamped out before they ever get a chance to see it. Simply because some people have so much hate in their hearts for what is different that they refuse to allow space for it. You say you're about the children. Forcing teachers to out them to their parents will put many kids in imminent danger. Is that okay because they're different than your kids? Why are they not worthy of being protected as well? If you're going to claim to be about the children, you need to be about ALL the children, not just the ones who appease your ideals.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: BRITTANY WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AMERICAN ATHEISTS		TITLE: STATE POLICY COUNSEL	
ADDRESS:			
CITY: CRANFORD		STATE: NJ	ZIP: 07016
EMAIL: bwilliams@atheists.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 10:47 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

March 1, 2023
 The Honorable Representative Brad Pollitt
 Chair, Elementary and Secondary Education
 Committee
 Missouri State Capitol
 201 West Capitol Avenue
 Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
 Re:

OPPOSE HB 634, HB 627, HB 482 Testimony from American Atheists in opposition to the co-called "Parents' Bill of Rights"

Dear Chairperson Pollitt and Members of the Elementary and Secondary Education Committee: American Atheists on behalf of its constituents in Missouri writes in opposition to HB 634, HB 627, and HB 482, bills that would give fringe parents veto power over nearly every aspect of the school environment, at the expense of students. Under the pretext of a concern for "parents' rights," these bills creates a host of new burdens on teachers, students, and parents. We strongly urge you to reject these harmful bills.

American Atheists is a national civil rights organization that works to achieve religious equality for all Americans by protecting what Thomas Jefferson called the "wall of separation" between government and religion created by the First Amendment. We strive to create an environment where atheism and atheists are accepted as members of our nation's communities and where casual bigotry against our community is seen as abhorrent and unacceptable. We promote understanding of atheists through education, outreach, and community-building and work to end the stigma associated with being an atheist in America. Religious liberty is an individual right guaranteed by the First Amendment, and American Atheists opposes efforts to misuse these constitutional protections to undermine the civil rights or religious freedom of others.

HB 627 is particularly harmful in that this bill allows parents to opt their children out of any classes or instruction based on the parents' "beliefs regarding morality, sex, and religion." For example, a parent might opt a student out of biology classes (if they have religious objections to evolution), history classes (if they disagree with the characterization of the US Civil War), geography (if they believe the Earth is flat), or even math (if they agree with the language in the Bible that implies p is 3). This is no way to run a school – and it would be a nightmare for teachers and administrators. Similarly, HB 634 is vague, overly broad, and eliminates student privacy. This bill would prevent school personnel from discouraging or prohibiting parental notification of and "involvement in critical decisions affecting a pupil's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being". It is undoubtedly important for parents to be informed of their child's wellbeing, however this language can put a number of children at risk. Even with a provision that would allow for schools to adopt policies to withhold information if a disclosure would result in abuse or neglect, HB 634 still has the potential to endanger students. For example, if a school official disagrees with a student's religious views or lack thereof the official could inform the parent. Another example is LGBTQ students, by forcing teachers and counselors to disclose information that could potentially label students as LGBTQ could put them at harm. Growing up is challenging enough, and schools must be a space of safe expression for students. As drafted, HB 634 would effectively erase LGBTQ students, families, and history by banning classroom discussion about

sexual orientation and gender identity. The Legislature cannot force LGBTQ people back into the closet by policing identity or stopping kids from talking about their same-sex parents. This bill will also put school districts in an impossible bind. They are required to treat LGBTQ students equally and prevent harassment under Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and gender, including sexual orientation and gender identity. At the same time, the strictures of this bill would prevent schools from offering supportive resources and mandate unequal treatment of LGBTQ youth. Missouri schools would be subject to liability whether they protect LGBTQ students and provide an inclusive learning environment or silence and stigmatize them as this bill requires. Missouri's scarce education resources should be used for the actual education of students, not wasted in political efforts to target vulnerable youth. Likewise, HB 482 purports to prevent racial stereotyping. However, as drafted, HB 482 limits diversity education, prevents discussion of structural racism, and ultimately results in a censored view of American history. Our nation's schools should promote critical thinking, limit censorship, and prevent the white washing of racial and religious history. The impact of bills like HB 482 filed around the country goes beyond just the text of each bill. These vague bills create fear among well-meaning educators and employees. For example, a Texas administrator, fearing being penalized under similar legislation recently passed in his state, instructed teachers that they must teach both sides of the Holocaust.¹ At the same time, these bills empower those with extreme agendas to push to ban books,² drive out veteran educators,³ and even oppose Black History Month.⁴ The environment created by these bills chill speech, impede education, and is harmful to students and schools, ultimately undermining the long term prosperity of Missouri. Recent survey research⁵ confirms that a broad bipartisan majority of Americans: Want students to learn a thorough, accurate, and fact-based account of American history; Trust teachers to thoughtfully teach the hard parts of history; Believe racism is widespread and harmful to society and that schools have a responsibility to teach students that racism is wrong; Want to reduce political division; and Want schools to ensure that all students feel they belong and see themselves reflected in the curriculum. Teaching about the issues of the day, including matters that actually affect the lives of students and their families, can be an important way to invest students in their education and to connect the subjects they are studying to issues of significance in our nation's public discourse. Teachers, especially in areas like civics, social studies, and history, have a responsibility to teach critical thinking and to prepare students for full participation in our society and democracy. Deep engagement with so-called controversial subjects, including legislation or policies that affect the education of students themselves, can be an important way to encourage democratic participation and to bring these sometimes-abstract subjects to life. This bill would incentivize a censored teaching of our nation's history, tie the hands of the educators we trust, and could virtually eliminate discussions of structural racism. The quality of instruction, critical thinking skills of students, and sense of belonging of all students will suffer, and it will worsen the already poor diversity education offered in many schools. This bill will harm Missouri students, and is being driven by political, rather than educational, interests. Rather than attempting to silence history, trust and equip your teachers and educational institutions to do the important work of digging into difficult discussions around race and a nuanced understanding of our nation's complex racial history. In conclusion, Missouri's public schools are meant to be safe and welcoming for all students. Lawmakers should not manufacture "parent's rights" that endanger students or strip away their civil rights. We strongly urge you to reject these unnecessary and harmful bills. If you should have any questions regarding American Atheists' opposition to HB 634, HB 627, and HB 482, please contact me by email at bwilliams@atheists.org. Sincerely, Brittany Williams
State Policy Counsel
American Atheists



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAITLIN CHASE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: caitleavy@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 6:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I grew up in Harry S Truman's hometown and have always felt a deep pride in our states history and our people. This is a shameful move on the part of Missouri's legislators. It is the job of teachers to be a resource to students in order to help them grow and learn as individuals. Barring children's access to information based on y'all thinking it's icky to be gay is the most ridiculous thing one could think of wasting the time of our governments power on. As a parent, I am of the mind that I will contextualize the things my kid learns at school by our family's moral values. School is to learn, home is to place it in context of our culture and religion. Truly? Get a life losers. Your time would be better spent eating dirt (which honestly I bet you did when you were in school)



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAITLIN PLEIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: caitlinplein@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 11:39 PM

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I oppose this bill as it seeks to inhibit the healthy development of children in this state and poses a threat to the mental health and well-being of children in this state.



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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CAITLIN UNG		PHONE NUMBER: 314-644-8740	
REPRESENTING: AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION-MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 906 OLIVE STREET, SUITE 1130			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	

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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CALVINO HAMMERMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROL FRAIL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: carolfrail@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 8:47 AM
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As an American veteran, I volunteered to fight for the freedoms of every citizen. The draconic bill is discriminatory, anti-democratic and unconstitutional. My mother is a retired educator and I also hold a bachelors degree. I can remember countless examples of elementary school teachers with pictures of their spouses and children at their desks. Does this mean they were “pushing a heterosexual agenda” on the school children? This hypocritical bill will infringe on the rights of LGBTQ+ citizens.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROL LIMA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cjtlima@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 3:18 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Kids are smart and not racist or bigoted like the world we live in. Kids already understand that all families are different and come in all shapes, sizes, religions, colors, ethnicities and all that is important is that they have responsible adults who love them, protect them, and are kind to those that are not like them. Acceptance and respect should be taught in the classroom and modeled by school personnel in all roles. Specific sexual practices are not what is taught despite what our MO ultra conservatives think. It is a reality that LBTQ people exist just like Irish Catholics and the more that children accept all humanity the better our state and nation will be working together to solve real problems rather than hiding these terms and making it feel less than human. Communication and love are powerful and productive . Let's not follow the bigoted state of Florida into the dark ages but rather educate our children to love accept and work together for the common good. I have worked 22 years in schools and have witnessed first hand the power of factual truth and empathy when taught to our children. Unfortunately, I have also witnessed what happens when narrow-minded individuals want to ignore the truth and whitewash history. I can please vote against this ignorant bill for the sake of our next generation. We are better than this. Respectfully submitted by Carol Lima M. S. Speech Pathologist and child advocate



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN PERRY HUNT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: carolyn.perry2113@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 9:24 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 634. In many respects, the bill sounds reasonable: our public schools should notify parents of the mental, emotional, and physical health and well-being of their children. But the bill includes this statement, which has nothing to do with the bill's intent: "No classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties relating to sexual orientation or gender identity shall occur." Sexual orientation and gender identity are part of what it means to be human. Both topics are a natural part of biology classes, but also could arise quite naturally in class discussions of history, sociology, and government/politics; teachers must not be expected to suppress such discussion. Furthermore, teachers cannot erase the fact that people vary in their expressions of both sexual orientation and gender identity, and children should not be taught to fear this fact. Missouri cannot become a state in which ignorance is valued over knowledge and understanding. Please be honest in your discussions of this bill and what including this statement means. And please vote against it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CASSIE BROWN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-6569	
REPRESENTING: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS MISSOURI CHAPTER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 2043			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65102
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CASYE DAVIDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: casye.davidson@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:02 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill pretends to be about "parent's rights" but is just another pathetic excuse by the Missouri GOP to strip rights away from LGBT+ students and teachers. Many children who live with abusive parents are only able to find safety in school, and this bill puts those children at risk. Teachers and counselors will no longer be trusted by student bodies once they realize that anything they say can immediately be reported to parents or guardians who might not like what they hear. Just because they are children doesn't mean they don't deserve some measure of privacy. Furthermore, this bill unjustly targets LGBT teachers. As a trans teacher in a gay marriage, I could potentially be penalized for something as simple as having a photograph of my wife on my desk. This bill clearly intends to remove queer teachers and students from schools and will do untold amounts of damage.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CATHERINE HOLMES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ktcruiser@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARLIE SAUNDERS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHARLIE VILLHARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: charlie.m3owth@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 2:22 PM
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This could stop discussion about important topics regarding gender. This could be used to prevent the discussion of feminist issues and gender inequality throughout the world. This could also negatively affect the mental health of students with diverse gender identity along with those that take pride in their gender identity. Reducing the discussion of topics regarding sexuality will also not fix or help the ongoing struggle for gay individuals, as it will only increase the conflict. These are the reasons I believe this bill is a problem.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHARLOTTE B MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: cbmill1012@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 3:54 PM
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Not all children have parents who act in the best interest of their children and these kids may need to know that they are not alone in being different. There is no need to muzzle school teachers and counselors or prohibit honest discussions of individual differences.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL LYNN ADELSTEIN		PHONE NUMBER: 314-442-3872	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL		TITLE: DEPUTY DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 12 MILLSTONE CAMPUS DRIVE			
CITY: SAINT LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63146
EMAIL: cadelstein@jcrctl.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 7:25 PM	

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My name is Cheryl Adelstein and I serve as the Deputy Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of St. Louis. We are here today to express our opposition to both the Parents Bill or Rights and Curriculum ban bills being heard today. The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), guided by Jewish values, advocates, educates, collaborates, and mobilizes action on issues important to the Jewish community, 60,000 strong in St. Louis. We are committed to pursuing religious tolerance, civic discourse and social justice in St. Louis and beyond. Jewish tradition teaches about the act of t’shuvah, or making amends. When we begin the process of repentance, there are five steps we are required to make in order to successfully achieve the process, including the act of “desisting from sin.” But in order to desist from sin, we must be knowledgeable about the issue, how it began and why it was a problem. If we stop teaching our children the sins of our past, how will we prevent those sins from occurring in the future? There are some things about history on which we can all agree. Two examples: slavery was a horrific part of our nation’s history and that no one could fathom it happening again; and the Holocaust was devastating and also difficult to comprehend how something like that could happen. How do we ensure that horrors like the Holocaust, are not repeated? By educating the next generation. We tell the stories of the efforts by a few in power to systemically dehumanize one group, the Jews of Germany. We describe how the government stripped this group of their rights, then removed them from their homes, inhumanly transported them to concentration camps and killed, starved or worked 6 million or more people to death. We repeat the rally cry, Never Again. And we ensure that the stories are never forgotten so that they are never repeated. And there are stories of our American history that we want never to be repeated. In the 1800’s, as part of the U.S. belief in Manifest Destiny, our government removed native American peoples from their lands, marched them inhumanly to far away reservations - away from their own lands and traditions. During WWII, the U.S. gathered its own citizens of Japanese American origins, and placed them in internment camps for the duration of the war, ruining lives, reputations and never providing restitution. And then there were the race riots that occurred on either side of our state - in East St. Louis, IL and in Tulsa, OK, where entire black communities were burned to the ground. SB 89 says, and I quote, parents have “the right to object to the instructional materials and other materials used in their children’s classroom based on the parent’s belief that such materials are inappropriate for whatever reason and to be assured such objectionable materials are not taught to the parent’s child. “How do we teach comprehensive history without talking about times when our country missed the mark? I love this country. The premise of religious freedom, enshrined in our founding document, has enabled the Jewish people to live and thrive in the United state for nearly 400 years. When I learned about the Trail of Tears, the intentional slaughter of the buffalo, the rise of Jim Crow laws, the intentional displacement of US Citizens into camps, race riots, lynching, and I could go on, I do feel discomfort. Not because of my race or sex or my religion, but

because I am a human being. It is only through a full accounting of our American History, and our faith in our children to be critical thinkers, that they can understand the past and stand up and say Never Again.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHLOE TELLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: moore292@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:19 AM

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Not only does this bill fail to truly empower parents, but this bill fails to protect children. In fact, it creates a hostile learning environment.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE BROWN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: christinebrown1009@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 8:33 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTINE HYMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: chrisehyman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 4:40 AM
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I strongly oppose HB 634 for multiple reasons. 1. School Districts do not need more government involvement in Missouri. We are close to last in the nation for teacher pay, school funding and with so many bills reaching into local school districts our government is setting up public schools to fail. 2. Parents already can be as involved as they want to in their children's education. I can already see curriculum on our district website. I can reach out to teachers and administrators and receive a response and discuss my child's educational goals. 3. Trying to erase LGBTQ students by not talking about it in class is not going to change a single thing, except teach harassment and discrimination. How do littles with two moms or two dads talk about their family? Families look different some have a mom and dad, some a mom and grandma, sometime kids live with only a grandparent and yes, some kids live with two mom or two dads. Teaching tolerance is key to sending our kids out into todays world. 4. Teacher retention. We will continue to lose good teaches if they fear repercussions. 5. Sometimes parents are abusive. Sometimes a counselor or teacher is a safe person to talk to. Sometimes kids need to just talk to someone who won't hurt them or judge them. For these reasons I oppose this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CLARISSE	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: twothewoods@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 12:44 AM
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Do not support HB 634. Legislators are not qualified to dictate to educators what is best for students. MO public schools are staffed with professionals who have years of education and experience and have gone through extensive scrutiny and evaluations. Education staff are the experts in curriculum and educational guidance - they are trained to meet the needs of students in their care. There is no need for the obsessive emphasis and “artificial” fear of “grooming” and of talking to students about LGBTQ individuals and issues. Homophobic legislators are not qualified to dictate educational programming for educators or emotional support for students or parents.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLAUDIA WALK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLEMENTINE HUCK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CLINT CRABTREE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ctcrabtree@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 2:23 PM
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I oppose this bill.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: COREY GREJTAK-HEAPS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: coreyrgh@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 9:10 PM
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This proposed legislation endangers children with abusive or neglectful parents. Teachers are often one of the few harbors of safety for children whose needs are not being met at home. The consequences of leaving those children with no safe adult permitted to monitor their psychosocial wellbeing would be dire. We must not pass legislation that endangers Missouri children. Please vote no on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAN BRIGMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: danbrigman@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 7:22 AM
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HB 634 (Kelley R-127), bans the instruction in all public and charter schools from mentioning gender identity or sexual orientation. This is a another "Don't Say Gay" bill, which means teachers will not be able to discuss any book that involves LGBTQ+ people or has a romantic relationship within the book, they cannot mention LGBTQ+ history, and they cannot discuss anything to do with human relationships. To say the least, this proposed bill is discriminatory and will be harmful to LGBTQ+ people, in particular, and damaging to society as a whole. Inclusivity of all gender identities and sexual orientations needs to be a goal of charter and public schools. To do otherwise is spread fear, ignorance, and/or hatred. I completely oppose this bill, as it is currently written.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL BARNETT-FOSTER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dan@barnettfoster.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 1:04 PM
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Human sexuality, including sexual orientation and gender identity, is an important part of age-appropriate education. LGBTQ+ children deserve to have education similar to that of their cisgender or heterosexual peers.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DARBY SHERIDAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gita.gone.mom@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 7:27 PM
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Hello, I am Darby M. Sheridan. I am a 12-year-old non-binary child. I am here in strong opposition to house bill 634. This bill will prohibit conversations about LGBTQ IA+ people in classrooms in Missouri. I remember the first time I tried to commit suicide. I was seven. The counselor at my school helped me and taught me that just because I am different and people may stare at me and glare at me or throw rocks in my face does not mean that I don't deserve to live. By passing this bill we are teaching young LGBTQIA+ people that they offend others and it is better for them to be erased than to be recognized. This bill would erase so many families, children, and staff from education. I know people who are women. I know people who are men. I am neither and I am proud. And I want people to know that they are not offensive and they should be proud of who they are. So please, I ask you, for all the pain that that I and people like me have had to go through, vote no on this bill. Who knows how many children like me can be saved. Thank you for your time.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAVA-LEIGH BRUSH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dems22blue@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 5:40 PM	
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I appeared in person today, and thought I submitted my witness form. I don't know what random paper you got from me, but I found my form in my notebook. These are the remarks I spoke from: This bill is problematic on several levels. Section 2's language surrounding access of records could apply to counseling records. Right now, when a kid asks a counselor, "Will you tell anyone? Is this confidential?" A counselor usually says, "I only have to report if you're in danger or danger of hurting someone else." This bill changes that. Parents already have the right to educational records and they usually provide medical records, so what does that even mean? Before third party counseling is started, it is my experience that parents have to provide written permission (or not). Section 6 contradicts other legislation surrounding parental rights to determine care for their transgender youth.. Parents either have the right to medical decisions or they don't. Additionally, it could exacerbate neglect. Sometimes the only eye or dental visits students get are through the schools. Finally the punitive measures could create a cottage industry of frivolous suits. It's not clear who can bring litigation. While such suits might be found for the district, this will still siphon resources of time and money from the district. This bill looks similar to other parents' rights bill but has the added feature of attacking the LGBTQ+ community with it's Don't Say Gay and forced outing component. The opposition to parents rights bills is 90% and so was the opposition to the Senate Don't Say Gay bill. In fact it is at 70% in general for all bills harming the LGBTQ+ community. These bills would fail under the propose initiative petition changes proposed the majority party. Representative Kelley said something in answer to a question on this bill: Things can be addressed if students bring something to the discussion. Students do bring something to the discussion every single day: themselves. They bring their hearts, their hopes, their fears, their silliness. They should be allowed to bring their authentic, beautiful selves to school every single day without fear.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DEBI JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEBORAH REINHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: deborahreinhardt@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2023 8:19 PM
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HB 634 discriminates against LGBTQ+ citizens. By removing the ability for a student to discuss sexual orientation or gender with school personnel, this proposed legislation puts students at a risk. Knowing a safe adult is available when a home is not affirming is critical to LGBTQ+ youth. This is a frivolous and unnecessary piece of legislation. As a citizen, I'm concerned our elected leaders would give attention to something like this instead of issues that have greater importance in Missouri.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DR. LESTER C. JOERN JR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: lcjmudds@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:43 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Good Morning: Along with HB 634 there are 26 other anti LGBT bills in senate and house committees. That equates to 21% of all bills in the Missouri legislator. Our great state now ranks #1 in the United States with the most anti LGBT bills. This is not something to be proud of. Yet the LGBT community only represents 7% of the Missouri population. My wife and I raised two wonderful daughters that went from kindergarten to twelfth grade in the Ladue school district. Ladue's school district is ranked in the top 40 in the country and the top district in Missouri. One of the reasons it is rated so high is because of its curriculum that includes diversity in a wide variety of areas. There are courses and school clubs that deal with the LGBT community and these teachings are integrated into the school curriculum. Our daughters graduated with a firm and fair education regarding the the LGBT community. The LGBT students were welcomed, not discriminated against. May I suggest to my Missouri legislators that we deal with more important issues, such as the state of Missouri ranking 47th in funding for higher education. Our state public higher education support per capita is \$180 vs a US average of \$319. Over the last ten years, funding for higher education has increased nationwide at an average of 12.40%. In Missouri, however, funding has DECREASED by 13.70%!!!! Is this not a more important issue than the LGBT issues? Logic would dictate your answer should be yes. Please, instead of supporting these LGBT bills that affect a small minority of the state population support bills that affect the vast majority of Missourians. Dr.Lester C. Joern Jr50 Godwin LaneLadue, Missouri634124



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH W		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ewardhome@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 4:00 PM
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Hello, thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. My name is Elizabeth and I'm a queer Missourian. I graduated from a public high school in 2010, and only afterwards, realized my true identity. While I was in school, there were very few positive representations of queer people in the media or in books we read for school. I remember feeling confused and ashamed about the feelings I had while I was in middle school -- something I'm still trying to heal from at age 30. Positive representation is important. We have studies that show that 50% of LGBTQ school-aged youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, but those who found their school to be LGBTQ-affirming reported lower rates of attempting suicide. While public schools serve entire families, the needs of students should always come first. We have an opportunity to preserve life-saving measures for kids in our state. I urge you to vote no on this bill.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ELLEN WENTZ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ellenwentz@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:29 AM
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Please allow teachers the freedom to teach. This bill will only make it more difficult for MO to hire and retain teachers. Gender identity and sexual orientation is a reality in the world today and, if a teacher feels mentioning information about this because it is appropriate to the subject and age of the students, then this should be allowed.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: EMMA SCHARFF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: emmagscharff@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 2:55 PM
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I believe that no matter what one person believes their right to say what they want should never be restricted by the US government. It is a violation of our basic freedoms as Americans and is a way for the government to control the individual. As a student, I know its important to respect the rules of a classroom as they are set by the teacher or administrators but rules that are put in place like this take away that authority of teachers and administrators to do what they believe is best for their students and places that power in the hands of the government who are not in our classrooms everyday teaching and raising the next generation. I believe that everyone deserves respect and that this law not only takes away respect from households and people that are considered non-traditional in their sexual orientation or gender identity but it also takes away the respect of school districts and the individual American.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERIN LITZAU		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ekb6266@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:22 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ERNIE PAUL BARRETTE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: epbarrette@post.harvard.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 8:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As the medical director of the HIV Clinic at Washington University I have seen too many young gay men who have struggled with acceptance. There are many issues in history and current affairs that cannot be fully understood without discussing sexual orientation. Open discussions in middle and high schools should not be limited.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GAIL WECHSLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gailwechsler91@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 10:11 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a longtime Missouri resident and the parent of two children who went through the public education system in this state. I felt and still feel that it is critically important for our children to learn history and to learn about the different marginalized groups in our society. Whitewashing history and how we teach our children offends groups who have been "otherized" in our country and cheats our children out of learning the full range of experiences of US history. If a particular parent does not want their child to learn about this topic, that parent is free to home school their child or send them to private school. Don't impose your world view on all of our children, who deserve better.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: HEATHER FLEMING		PHONE NUMBER: 314-477-4059	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI EQUITY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP		TITLE: DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 1352			
CITY: ST. CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63303
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HOLLY GRIZZLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hlg223@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 11:01 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a resident of St. Peters, MO and I am opposed to HB 634. I believe that childhood is a time for children to be exposed to the ways of the world. School provides a safe and controlled environment for exploration. When I was in school, teachers weren't just there to give us the subject material, they were there to help guide us through life. Not being able to discuss gender and attraction with a safe adult deprives children of a way to understand the world and themselves. Please vote against HB 634.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAMES DONNELLY III		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tripp@wasteoftime.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 11:08 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill will make it impossible to teach history and current issues in high school.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMIE SCOTT HOWARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: midwesterntheory@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Jamie Howard, I am a 29 years old resident of Jefferson City and I oppose HBs 634, 482 and 627. I was born and raised in Missouri and graduated from Moberly Senior High School. I'm a veteran of the Missouri Army National Guard, and a former deputy sheriff here in Cole County, I left law enforcement to pursue a medical education through the University of Cincinnati and had the opportunity to serve as Student Government Vice President as an adult nontraditional student, and I will be running for House of Representatives. I say this because I want to emphasize that my time in the educational sphere is recent. LGBTQ people exist. Queer people exist. They are real people, we are real people, human beings, attempting to live normal lives like everyone else. They love like humans do and in the way that only humans can do. They should be allowed to live their lives publicly and participate **FREELY** in our society with as much liberty you would afford a straight couple. They should be able to be proud of their spouses and their families and their lives. I know for a fact that there are LGBTQ Missourians employed right here in the capitol building that this bill will affect, or it will affect their spouses or their families. It is outrageous to me that you cannot see how these bills will affect the families and lives of people you work with every day, people you likely would call friends. Beyond that LGBTQ kids exist, and it is not a new phenomenon, and you all know this as well. I graduated high school in 2012 and there were kids I grew up with, that I was friends with, who were openly gay while they were in school. Going back to middle school at least, I remember queer kids being bullied relentlessly in a time in our society when we used "gay" as an insult in school, at work, on television and on the radio and after fighting relentlessly for representation in the media, people began to see the LGBTQ community as human beings, as neighbors and co-workers, friends even, and we saw progress. We saw our American society begin to stop using "gay" as an insult and the word "fag" became so awful to hear that most people become offended when they hear it. If these bills pass, we will see less supportive teachers and staff in schools due to fear of reprisals. We will see less effective intervention from school staff in handling bullying and harassment problems, just like when I was in school. We will see more homophobic remarks from students, parents and school staff just like when I was in school. Under this bill, teachers cannot discuss any book that involves LGBTQ people or has a romantic relationship within the book, they cannot mention LGBTQ history, and they cannot discuss anything to do with human relationships. And principals would be banned from discussing bullying/harassment that a student may endure. LGBTQ history is American history, Stonewall happened, Harvey Milk is an important part of American history, the AIDS epidemic happened, and yes the Nazis did raid the worlds first Research Institute of Sexology. Opened in 1919 dedicated to studying trans and queer healthcare, and providing gender affirming care until the 1930s when Nazis raided the hospital and burned 10s of thousands of books related to the study of transgender healthcare. This statement from PROMO perfectly frames my above points together, "This bill aims to erase LGBTQ students, families, and history by banning any mention about them in schools. The sad thing is

childhood psychologists have taught for decades that relationships or relational aspects within a classroom or school environment are an integral part of growth and development. We need to leave education to our educators. Teachers have a tough job of helping children think critically and prepare for their futures. Curriculum should be set by educators, not censored by politicians with partisan agendas." As for HB 627 lines 81 through 87 are deliberate. You want to attempt to get ahead of "CRT" but you're firing solutions in all the wrong directions. Systemic racism is very real, I am attaching several pages for you from my own video lessons to actual examples of systemic racism. This to me sounds like you want to bring back lesson plans created by the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) to teach the lost cause myth that has been taught in Missouri for decades. The UDC was founded after reconstruction to preserve the ideology of confederates who were reaching old age and passing away. They created the myths of "states rights" (when in fact every state that seceded from the Union cited slavery as their direct reason.) and the "happy slave". We should be ashamed of the actions that occurred in our past so that it fuels us to never let it happen again. Kids should be ashamed of slave holders and fiercely proud of abolitionists. Begin: My personal lessons for my educational account regarding systemic racism in the United States Washington CNN — One of Richard Nixon's top advisers and a key figure in the Watergate scandal said the war on drugs was created as a political tool to fight blacks and hippies, according to a 22-year-old interview recently published in Harper's Magazine. "The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and black people," former Nixon domestic policy chief John Ehrlichman told Harper's writer Dan Baum for the April cover story published Tuesday. "You understand what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin. And then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities," Ehrlichman said. "We could arrest their leaders. raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did." Ehrlichman's comment is the first time the war on drugs has been plainly characterized as a political assault designed to help Nixon win, and keep, the White House. It's a stark departure from Nixon's public explanation for his first piece of legislation in the war on drugs, delivered in message to Congress in July 1969, which framed it as a response to an increase in heroin addiction and the rising use of marijuana and hallucinogens by students. However, Nixon's political focus on white voters, the "Silent Majority," is well-known. And Nixon's derision for minorities in private is well-known from his White House recordings.

COINTELPRO - (syllabic abbreviation derived from Counterintelligence Program; 1956–1971) was a series of covert and illegal projects actively conducted by the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) aimed at surveilling, infiltrating, discrediting, and disrupting domestic American political organizations. FBI records show COINTELPRO resources targeted groups and individuals the FBI deemed subversive, including feminist organizations, the Communist Party USA, anti-Vietnam War organizers, activists of the civil rights and Black power movements (e.g. Martin Luther King Jr., the Nation of Islam, and the Black Panther Party), environmentalist and animal rights organizations, the American Indian Movement (AIM), Chicano and Mexican-American groups like the Brown Berets and the United Farm Workers. In 1971 in San Diego, the FBI financed, armed, and controlled an extreme right-wing group of former members of the Minutemen anti-communist paramilitary organization, transforming it into a group called the Secret Army Organization that targeted groups, activists, and leaders involved in the Anti-War Movement, using both intimidation and violent acts. The FBI has used covert operations against domestic political groups since its inception; however, covert operations under the official COINTELPRO label took place between 1956 and 1971. Many of the tactics used in COINTELPRO are alleged to have seen continued use including; discrediting targets through psychological warfare; smearing individuals and groups using forged documents and by planting false reports in the media; harassment; wrongful imprisonment; illegal violence; and assassination. According to a Senate report, the FBI's motivation was "protecting national security, preventing violence, and maintaining the existing social and political order". Beginning in 1969, leaders of the Black Panther Party were targeted by the COINTELPRO and "neutralized" by being assassinated, imprisoned, publicly humiliated or falsely charged with crimes. The Black Codes were laws which governed the conduct of free and freed African Americans United states. Although black codes existed before the civil war and many northern states had them it was the southern U.S. states that codified them into everyday practice. The best known of them were passed in 1865 and 1866 by southern states after the American Civil War in order to restrict African Americans freedom and compel them to continue to work for low or no wages. Since the colonial period, colonies and states had passed laws that discriminated against free blacks and in the South these were generally included in slave codes. The goal was to suppress the influence of free African Americans particularly after slave rebellions because of their potential influence on slaves control their labor and preserve the free labor system. In the first two years after the civil war black codes were enacted by politicians to maintain white control over former slaves namely by restricting African Americans labor activity. Common codes included

vagrancy laws that criminalize African Americans lack of employment or permanent residents and law often also prevented them owning or renting property, and inability to pay these fees for vagrancy crimes resulted in imprisonment during which prisoners labored in the very same wage free positions held by slaves less than two years prior. Other crimes punishable by imprisonment and subsequent slave labor per black codes included unlawful assembly for worship learning to read and write and to racial relationships violation of slave like labor contracts possession of firearms making or selling liquor selling agricultural produce without a written permission from an employer whether or not they were self-employed and practicing any occupation other than servant or farmer without holding a judge ordered license. Additionally orphaned minors and minors removed from their homes by the state were apprenticed by the courts to employers until the age of 21. Minors apprenticed under black codes were authorized to be forced into labor against their will and apprentice relationships closely resembled those of master and slave in terms of discipline and involuntary labor. By 1866 nearly all southern states had enacted individual sets of black codes the widespread enforcement of black code laws effectively use the 13th amendments exception of penal labor to reinvent the chattel slavery economy and society to comply with federal law. On September 9, 1912, Sleety Mae Crow, an 18-year-old white girl, was attacked as was walking from home to her aunt's house nearby on Browns Bridge Road along the Forsyth-Hall County line, in Georgia. The next morning, searchers found Mae Crow. She was still alive and breathing shallowly although she had been severely beaten and sexually assaulted, she would eventually pass from her injuries. At the scene of the rape, searchers found a small pocket mirror that was said to belong to Ernest Knox, a 16-year-old black resident of Oscarville. Knox allegedly told three friends what he had done, they went to see for themselves. They were Oscar Daniel, 17; Oscar's sister Trussie Daniel, 22; and Robert Edwards, 24, a close neighbor. These allegations were never proven, and statements were made under the threat of drowning. Ernest Knox was arrested at his home and transported to Gainesville. On the way Knox, after being subjected to a form of torture known as mock lynching and threatened with drowning, confessed to having attacked Crow. Crow's murder has not been solved to this day. Oscar Daniel, Trussie Daniel, and Rob Edwards were all arrested the next day as suspects in Crow's attack, as was their neighbor Ed Collins who was held as a witness. They were taken to the county jail in Cumming, where a mob of an estimated 2,000 nearby white residents had formed by the time, they got them to the jail. As the day went on the mob grew by an estimated several hundred to 4,000 and had begun calling for the lynching of the arrestees. Eventually some men gained entry and shot and killed Edwards in his cell, then dragged his body through the streets, and hanged him from a telephone pole on the Cumming town square. His body was so mutilated that early accounts identified him as Ed Collins. Charges against Trussie Daniel and Ed Collins were dismissed; she agreed to a plea bargain and testifying as a state witness against her brother and Knox. Knox and Oscar Daniel stood trial. Each of the youths were quickly convicted of rape and murder by the all-white jury, black residents were excluded as jurors because they were largely prevented from voting. On the following day both teenagers were sentenced to death by hanging. State law prohibited public hangings, and the scheduled execution was to be viewed only by the victim's family and select others. However, Gallows were built off the square in Cumming and the fence erected around the gallows was burned down the night before the execution. A crowd estimated at between 5,000 and 8,000 gathered to watch what became a public hanging of the two youths. The total county population was around 12,000 at the time. In the following months, a small group of men called Night Riders terrorized black citizens, warning them to leave in 24 hours or be killed. Those who resisted were subjected to further harassment, including shots fired into their homes, or livestock killed. An estimated 98% of black residents of Forsyth County left. Some property owners were able to sell at a loss. Many black properties ended up in white hands without a sale and without a legal transfer of title. Eventually, the village of Oscarville was submerged under the waters of Lake Lanier. This campaign of terror was widespread across Appalachian Georgia, with Forsyth County being the third to expel its black population after Towns and Union. The Campaign would continue to the surrounding counties of Fannin, Gilmer and Dawson and beyond and would later be described by historians and anthropologists as a racial cleansing. Between May 31st and June 1st, 1921, in Tulsa Oklahoma, a violent racially motivated riots broke out and sparked by confrontation of white residents and resulted in the deaths of hundreds of people mostly African Americans and the destruction of the Greenwood district. The Greenwood district was a prosperous African American community, business, and financial services district known as Black Wall Street. The conflict began when 19-year-old Dick Rowland, a black man, was accused of assaulting 17-year-old Sarah Paige, a white woman, in an elevator. Soon after Rowland was arrested a white mob formed to attack the jail where he was being held and remove him with the plan to lynch Rowland in the same manner, they had lynch Roy Belton the year prior. African American residents who were armed for self-defense confronted the white mob and the situation escalated into a full-blown riot. Over the next two days the white mob burned and looted homes businesses and churches in the Greenwood district leaving nearly 10,000 African Americans homeless and erasing a modern estimate of \$200 million in generational wealth built despite decades

of setbacks from slave and black codes and Jim Crow laws, forever. A 2001 Commission report found between 75 and 300 people had been killed, mostly African American. The National Guard would eventually be called in to restore order, but the damage had already been done. The Tulsa race riot was one of the worst incidences of racial violence in American history. A violent and tragic event that reflected the deep-seated racial tensions and inequalities in the American Society in the early 20th century. It had and continues to have a profound impact on the African American community in Tulsa and beyond. The events of the riot were largely suppressed by local state and federal officials for decades it serves today as a reminder of the ongoing struggle for racial justice and equality here in the United States. Bleeding Kansas, Bloody Kansas, or the Border War was a series of violent civil confrontations in Kansas Territory, and to a lesser extent in western Missouri, between 1854 and 1859. It emerged from a political and ideological debate over the legality of slavery in the proposed state of Kansas. The conflict was characterized by years of electoral fraud, raids, assaults, and murders carried out in the Kansas Territory and neighboring Missouri by proslavery "border ruffians" and antislavery "free-staters". According to Kansapedia of the Kansas Historical Society, 56 political killings were documented during the period, and the total may be as high as 200. It has been called a Tragic Prelude, or an overture, to the American Civil War, which immediately followed it. The conflict centered on the question of whether Kansas, upon gaining statehood, would join the Union as a slave state or a free state. The question was of national importance because Kansas's two new senators would affect the balance of power in the U.S. Senate, which was bitterly divided over the issue of slavery. The Kansas–Nebraska Act of 1854 called for popular sovereignty: the decision about slavery would be made by popular vote of the territory's settlers rather than by legislators in Washington. Existing sectional tensions surrounding slavery quickly found focus in Kansas. Missouri, a slave state since 1821, was populated by many settlers with Southern sympathies and proslavery views, some of whom tried to influence the Kansas decision by entering Kansas and claiming to be residents. The conflict was fought politically, as well as between civilians, where it eventually degenerated into brutal gang violence and paramilitary guerrilla warfare. The term "Bleeding Kansas" was popularized by Horace Greeley's New-York Tribune. Kansas had a state-level civil war that would soon be replicated on a national basis. It had two different capitals (proslavery Lecompton and antislavery Lawrence and Topeka), two different constitutions (the proslavery Lecompton Constitution and the antislavery Topeka Constitution), and two different legislatures (the so-called "bogus legislature" in Lecompton and the antislavery body in Lawrence). Both sides sought and received help from outside, the proslavery side from the federal government; Presidents Franklin Pierce and James Buchanan openly helped the proslavery partisans. Both claimed to reflect the will of the people of Kansas. The proslavers used violence and threats of violence, and the free-soilers responded in kind. After much commotion, including a congressional investigation, it became clear that a majority of Kansans wanted Kansas to be a free state, but this required congressional approval, which Southerners in Congress blocked. On May 21, 1856, proslavery Missourians invaded Lawrence, Kansas, and burned the Free State Hotel, destroyed two antislavery newspaper offices, and ransacked homes and stores in what became known as the Sack of Lawrence.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANA RAMSEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Ramseyjana@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 9:45 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

To define what parts of history can & cannot be taught in schools is censorship at its best. Others might call it communism. If that history involves LGBTQ communities, rights, maltreatment, etc..., it should be taught. Just as the ugly history of our countries origins should be taught side by side with the beautiful parts of our nation's history. Let us learn from our past...all of it.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANE BIRDSALL LANDER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: landerjb@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 9:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a parent, educator and grandparent I strongly object to HB 634. Every child has the right to information about gender identity just as they have a right to learn about math, science, english and history. If Missouri schools restrict fully educating students our schools will function as an UNAMERICAN institution. As an American and a citizen of Missouri I object to restricting our schools from educating our children in gender identity.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JANE FREEBURN WOOD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jane.f.wood@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 11:40 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

You and your damn Republican "Don't say Gay Bill" HB 634. What are you so afraid of? Kids talk about more than this online, in the cafeterias or on the school bus but God forbid that they hear it in a classroom setting by a professional who knows what they're talking about! Do you have a clue of the harm you're doing or do you just not care? SHAME ON YOU!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JARRETT PILLSBURY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jmpillsbury@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 12:00 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I oppose this legislation.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JASON GRIZZLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: grizzly_bear2013@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 11:49 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Teachers are meant to guide us, to teach us, to help us find our way in the world. This includes being able to provide us with variances in gender and sexuality. Schools do not always teach things that we like. Sometimes, for instance, we learn about dark instances in history that might disturb us. We teach about war, death, destruction, do we not? And yet now, you wish to ban teaching children about commonplace variances in human sexuality or gender? I understand that many of you neither understand nor like the idea of people being LGBTQ. But that does not mean you get to decide teachers can't discuss it. Additionally, the language in this bill says teachers cannot give instruction relating to sexual orientation or gender identity. What you fail to consider is that this includes any discussion about people being men or women, nor does it allow teachers to talk about or have materials where there are heterosexual couples. This bill prevents discussion or teaching about any sort of relationship.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JENNIFER WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Jennifer62442@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 7:31 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a resident in St. Louis County. I oppose this bill as it is an obvious attempt at creating hatred and division in the school system. This will negatively effect our youth, further ostracizing children who just want to be themselves and be treated with the equality and justice this nation claims to provide. LGBTQ+ History and topics are important and part of our story as a nation. Republicans trying to push this legislation based on views of faith are promoting actions that are against seperation of church and state and propose a more serious problem as well.I will not sugar coat it. It's fascist to target a group of people who are in the minority and demonize them and try to erase their existence. This agenda is quickly becoming one that is leaning into fascism by christian nationalists. (Here's a definition of fascism for those who don't know: a way of organizing a society in which a government ruled by a dictator controls the lives of the people and in which people are not allowed to disagree with the government.)I am a proud bisexual woman. I go to church, even sing in the choir. I'm not going anywhere. And neither is any LGBTQ+ person. We will keep fighting these atrocious attempts of erasing people and children in our community. Since it is the season of Lent I urge all Republican legislators to take the time and reflect upon if Jesus truly would want you to commit acts of fascism? Would he want you to torment children and teachers just so they fit in with your own closed off world view? Would he want you to cause increase in harm to children who just want love and acceptance? Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JERE HOCHMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Jhstlny@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Jere Hochman Individual For March 1, 2023 Hearing Note: Full testimony for HB 482 627 674 I will select segments for 2 minute testimonies Good Morning; Please, Drop this legislation. Parts are unnecessary. Parts are hurtful. Missouri Parents already have access to everything in proposed in your bills. Neosho, Fort Zumwalt, Lamar, and others already have Board policies, administrative guidelines, and procedures in place or in process on what you are proposing including curriculum and book access to parents, complaint procedures are in handbooks, parents visit schools and more. School districts track complaints and acknowledge trends of concerns in public forums and strategic plan. What you are proposing does not come up because parents already have access. Erasing children is immoral and hurtful. When a school ignores or cannot validate some children’s families, friends, even legislators – and themselves in schools, it is hurtful, models discrimination, and teaches hate. No child should be told not to explain his “draw your family” picture or “you can’t read that book because some of the characters are different.” And, your bill contradicts two of the six standards in your MSIP School Accreditation process. There are no data and no evidence to support the redundant school communication for adults and redacting targeted individuals and families from children. Instead – I implore you to model trust and honor professionalism in schools, to acknowledge existing law and policy, acknowledge every child’s worthiness, and to respect parenting. Trust Teachers. Teachers in Missouri are professionals. They are educated, certified, participate in continuing education, and supervised. Students and parents observe directly and indirectly 180 days a year. They care and have children’s best interests at heart. Trust them. They are good people with knowledge, instructional skills, mission, and heart. They are good teachers, your children like them, and we can’t afford to lose any more. Trust Missouri Professional District Leadership and Content Area Associations Missouri School Boards and Missouri School Administrator associations analyze policies and interpret your laws for school district; they train board members and superintendents; and they have provided model policies and best practices to serve parents and children in over 500 school districts for decades. Missouri Associations of mathematic, English, science, social studies, music, guidance counseling and others know research and community expectations for colleges, careers, and trades; set high standards and expectations for students, teachers, and supervisors; and recommend juried resources for schools. Trust Parents. Stop disrespecting parents and scripting how they should be parents. They know what to do and have advocates and allies to help them navigate schools if they don’t. Parents ALREADY receive routine notes and activities from teachers. They attend school events and parent-teacher conferences. They visit schools and classrooms. They do not hesitate to call or email a teacher. They do not hesitate to call the principal, central office, superintendent or make a comment at a Board meeting. They can ALREADY find the school district’s curriculum framework, resources, used, standards, and tests on district websites or calling to ask. They ALREADY can visit school libraries. They ALREADY have the right with procedures already established to complain about a book or

curriculum content. Their signature is already required for field trips and they are informed when Junior Achievement instructors or guest speakers are in school. And I speak from experience, parents do complain and expect a response. Trust Curriculum Development, Professional Training, and Supervision Policies already in place. Board Policy governs how curriculum is determined and is made accessible to parents in local school districts. To write District curriculum, committees use State standards; Math, Science and other professional organization's standards and research; advice from business councils, colleges, and trades; review of publishers resources; and parent input. Curriculum is online. Parents can review books and visit schools. Staff development, diversity workshops, understanding what kids are going through support professionalism, fairness, and care for children. I mentioned to someone that the things you want to prohibit are in place in school districts across the state – your school districts. Prior to this year, have there been complaints? Are teachers doing that which you are accusing them of, unfairly. Why? Trust Government. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Federal Office of Civil Rights, and other agencies who protect rights of children and parents and already follow laws which obligates them to accept and investigate complaints. It's working. Why would you want to implement what your majority party has been against for decades: big government intrusion, social engineering, brainwashing, and stifling regulations. Trust People, Trust "We the people," Respect for all persons, America's Progress, Community Engagement, and Responsibility and Accountability For over sixty years schools have been protecting children's' and parents' rights implementing IDEA, Title IX, non-discrimination and OCR laws, State laws, school district policies, and school rules. Every person and entity I cited has delivered. They communicate. Listen. Investigate. Act. School superintendents, principals, teachers, and counselors ALREADY take responsibility to follow and monitor those laws, policies, and procedures; to communicate with parents and communities; and to care. ((I assure you that kids talk when they think the back seat of the car is soundproof. Parents hear what's going on. And, when parents don't like something – law or no law – they complain. Parents are not shy. If they are, someone will advocate for them. In my most recent job, if parents didn't get an answer on curriculum or a class or a circumstance from the teacher or principals, they went to the central office, they spoke at a board meeting. And, the district employed a remarkable parent advocate who I assure you got answers for parents. And, the schools took action.)) Trust. That's it. Trust. Trust parents, the faith community, community agencies, community groups, recreational associations, and all those in the proverbial village who raise a child. Collectively, they've done a pretty good job – and legislating their actions and silencing their care is wrong. Teacher, counselors, cafeteria workers, security guards, administrators – only "agenda" is to 1) keep children safe – physically and YES, emotionally; 2) teach children approved lessons and YES to use the teachable moment to support children; and 3) be responsible and professional. They do not discriminate – nor do they judge, cite preference, label or pontificate when sensitive topics arise. They use age-appropriate communication. They listen. They protect children who might be teased or bullied (per federal and state Safety Act laws). They diffuse situations. They do not preach; they teach and let kids figure things out. On perceived sensitive issues and even controversial topics, they provide information, get facts and answer questions objectively, knowing that the child will get thousands of other images, misinformation, and explanations on their phones, on the street, or the back of the bus. If a child states a religious belief in a discussion, draws a family picture that does not look like your family picture, brings up a controversial or political issues - they do not squelch that child nor allow another child to judge them. But they do not and should not ignore or control what a child feels, thinks, or is curious about. They do not ignore children. They will not tolerate bullying and will follow your laws to enforce that. Some kids and adults may be different than some of you. History shows us that. I don't want you to feel guilty about bad laws passed in this chamber in another century or kids to feel guilty about anything in the past. If anything, I want them to witness history that listened and learned and figured things out. I implore you to drop these bills right now. Now. Trust the adults, the professional associations, the supervisors, the lawmakers who have already addressed rights and trust parents. Do not proceed with proposals that treat parents like they cannot think or take action on their own; that pretends that the policies and procedures to support parents do not exist; and which place untenable pressure on teachers and quite frankly, scaring teachers out of the profession to the degree you have legislation proposed to fix that. Most importantly, do not proceed with proposals that label – and then erase - children or their parents or their friends. The kids are watching.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JEREMY BROK		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOSH BECKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: josh.becker1@outlook.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 7:34 AM
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Why would our schools not want to teach history? Why would our schools not want our students to know about the history of the United States? When students are learning about history, they are going to come across LGBTQIA+ topics and how they became history. Taking away a student's right to learn about Stonewall, the AIDS pandemic in the 80s and 90s, the fight for equality and freedom for the LGBTQ community is something that should not be decided by our state legislature. According to a 2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth conducted by The Trevor Project, 45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year. 60% of LGBTQ youth who wanted mental health care in the past year were not able to get it and LGBTQ youth who live in a community that is accepting of LGBTQ people reported significantly lower rates of attempting suicide than those who do not. Here is the survey in detail (<https://www.thetrevorproject.org/survey-2022/>) These statistics are alarming. This bill is a disgrace to the LGBTQ community and LGBTQ allies who are working so hard to put a stop to this hate. We need to focus on ensuring that our students and children have all the tools at their disposal if they are questioning anything about their sexual orientation. When I was in school, I remember going to my teachers and talking to them about my sexual orientation, and they helped me. They were there for me, and they allowed me to come out at my own pace and let me know that I was safe in their classroom. I do not support this bill; I do not support the wording of this bill and I do not support what our current Missouri legislature is trying to do to our LGBTQ youth.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JULIE MICHELLE HESS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: julesh4663@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:58 PM
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I strongly oppose HB 634, which would disrespect and demonize the LGBTQ community. Furthermore, it prohibits school counselors from doing their actual job: censoring what students can discuss with school professionals will endanger their lives and increase the likelihood that they will harm themselves. This bill is disgusting, and the sponsors of this bill are outright fascists who ought to be ashamed of themselves.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JUSTIN FERGUSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE FEINER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: katherinefeiner@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 10:58 AM
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My name is Katherine Feiner and I live in Columbia, Missouri. I'm here to testify today against House Bill 634 because I was raised very much in the way this bill and others like it propose children should be. I grew up evangelical and homeschooled in rural Missouri. We didn't have sex ed at all. We didn't picket events or give fiery sermons about gay or trans people—we simply pretended they didn't exist. I didn't know anyone who was openly gay until I went to college. I didn't know what gender transition was until my early twenties. The only thing I really knew in my youth was that homosexuals were bad people who hated Jesus. I liked Jesus—I liked Jesus a lot—so clearly I couldn't be one of them. And yet I walked into my ballet class at age thirteen, saw my new teacher, and felt my innocent little heart flip-flop when she smiled at me. At age sixteen I looked forward all week to seeing one girl at church and felt a pit in my stomach if she wasn't there. At age twenty-one I talked about my aesthetic appreciation for feminine beauty and a gay friend looked at me sideways. Something about me always felt different, but I couldn't put it into words. I did, eventually, put it into words. Today I will tell you I am a bisexual woman. Having no information about who I was did not prevent me from having a non-heterosexual orientation. Having no mature adult of whom I could ask such questions or in whom I could confide did not protect me—it left me very alone. I did not turn gay when I met LGBT people. I just found people who for the first time in my life accepted the real me. Today I am asking you not to use government mandates in school classrooms to isolate and ostracize children who, like teenage me, do not have the words for who they already are, and whose only agenda is, in the words of famous painter Vincent Van Gogh, "I wish they would only take me as I am."



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE HAWKERSELF		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: khawkerself@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 7:04 AM
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I am a woman, a mother, a grandmother. I am a retired clergy person and a retired teacher. Parental rights in public education is near and dear to my heart. My parental concerns include both the explicit instruction (ie: curriculum) and implicit instruction (community expectations). My most sincere hope is that students will learn both empathy and critical thinking, how to work together for success and how to solve Algebra problems, the value of a peer's perspective and history lessons that are enlightening and inspiring. Parents who trust their children to public school educational have a right to expect excellence, child-centered instruction, and the deepest regard for each child entrusted. Committed to the highest standards for myself, my offspring and my community, I write to implore you to vote against this bill that purports to offer rights when in fact it functions to punish and silence. Teachers are educated professionals vetted by their districts who need to be entrusted to nurture and inspire students within the mandates set forth by the locally elected school boards. School boards reflect their community values and rightfully supervise policies that respect the values represented. This bill usurps the rightful function of school boards, administrative teams and teachers all in the guise of parental rights. At best this bill is a misnomer.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHERINE POLOKONIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: k.polokonis@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 11:51 AM
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Efforts to establish a "Parents Bill of Rights" perversely violate my rights as a parent. I want my children to attend educational institutions where they are safe, where they are able to talk to trusted faculty members about any issues they are struggling with, and where they are taught accurate information about the history of the United States and the State of Missouri. Should these efforts be successful, my two children will be less safe in their educational environments and will receive lower quality education. These bills are harmful to children and to the wellbeing of our state.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHLEEN BAUDINO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Oiphttc@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:41 PM
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This is an unconstitutional attempt to limit First Amendment rights. It will cost the taxpayers money to defend in court. That money should be used to fix our terrible roads instead. In addition to being a costly court case which Missouri will lose, it will nullify any benefits of tax break that the legislators passed for entertainment. Entertainment companies won't film here if this passes. Performers will boycott us. There is nothing to be gained here.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATRINA LACOMBE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Klacombe@youthinneed.org	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:10 AM

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My name is Katrina LaCombe. I use she/her pronouns. I currently live in St. Louis. I oppose HB 634. I grew up in Lee’s Summit, Missouri in a Conservative, Catholic house hold, and have lived in the state for nearly my entire life. My teachers were a crucial part of my development, especially when it comes to learning about relationships. My teachers taught about consent, modeled healthy relationships, and taught me that the world was really much bigger than my suburban, middle class perspective. Through books, examples, and history, I got to have a small snapshot of how people lived. But even with that, I never really learned about people much different than me. I grew up in a very heteronormative world. I so badly wanted to just be like my parents and the rest of my family, married to a man, have a good job, and eventually have kids. I did not grow up in a home that celebrated different sexual orientations or gender identities. It’s honestly not something we talked about, and when we did, it was negative. Throughout high school, my depression got worse, I struggled with suicidal thoughts, and I couldn’t feel better. Much, much later in life, I learned to accept myself. I had known all along, but wanted to change to preserve my relationships and my safety. I am so fortunate that my family was willing to do the work to question those biases they had and for loving me and my fiancé. I can tell you honestly, I did not learn about LGBTQ people in my household, and today 3 of the four kids in my family have come out to the family as a part of the LBGTQ+ community. As a current therapist and school based counselor, I regularly see the impacts of erasing an entire part of identity and don’t discuss it. We don’t prevent kids from knowing who they are or loving who they love, instead we add shame and judgement to the topic. I’m sure everyone in here has felt shame and knows first hand how damaging it can be, especially when that shame is perpetuated by adults they trust. In front of me, I see people who honestly look familiar. You look like and represent folks like my parents, aunts, uncles, friends, and neighbors. I have these conversations what feels like daily, and what I ask of them is to question their own defensiveness and trust the experts in the room. I am asking the same of you today. Please, for myself and all the clients and families I serve, vote no on HB 634.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KRISTINA CASAGRAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Tina.Casagrاند@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:24 AM
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As an educator, I find this proposal shockingly restrictive. I teach nature writing, which at first may not seem like a topic rife for gender identity. But the way I interpret this bill, I would not even be able to hold discussions about narratives around the concept of "Mother Nature." Furthermore and more importantly, gender identity and sexual orientation are important markers of identity, and our children look to multiple interpretations from responsible adults to help them understand the real world. If we chase these discussions out of the classrooms, curious students will inevitably turn to the internet, while others will grow up with their understanding of our nation's history out of alignment with reality. This bill seems to insinuate that we should pretend that gender identity and sexual orientation don't exist at all, which is frankly ludicrous and counter to the role educators play in shepherding young people into being responsible adults who contribute positively to their community. This should not be considered as a law.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAURA BURKHARDT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: aplomb-grove0n@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 5:13 PM
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This bill will censor educators, limit learning, increase our already alarming high rates of youth suicide and depression, lead to an increase in feelings of loneliness and isolation among students, and open schools up to even more litigation due to discriminatory practices. Missouri k-12 education is suffering. This legislation does nothing to improve our schools. Hungry kids don't learn. Kids who don't feel safe don't learn. Kids who don't have trusted adults in their lives don't learn. You know who does learn? Kids who attend fully funded schools, kids who have after school activities available to them, kids who have teachers that can focus on their students rather than being under constant scrutiny of the state, kids whose parents don't have to work excessive hours at multiple low wage jobs just to keep the lights on, kids who aren't hungry... I urge you to vote no on this bill and address areas that will actually improve education in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LAWRENCE DODD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: larrydodddhere@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 2:53 PM
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You have no right to force your belief system on the public at large. You should leave teaching decisions up to the teaching profession, and remove your religious and political beliefs from the classroom. Thank you.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LILI SIEGEL SACHAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dustytreasures5@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 2:26 PM
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A personal medical decision is not one for the government to decide except in rare circumstances. I am testifying as a an RN, Mother, and Grandmother. A parent in consultation with their Healthcare professional is in the position to make educated decisions for the best treatment of Transgender children. Elected officials don't know these children nor do they have the proper level of education in medical or psychological needs of these kids therefore ; how is it possible for them to even consider this bill? What I find worst of all , is that you would hurt child in this way. Have no regard to the feelings of those who you treat like trash and humiliate in this entire process. The State has no place in the private medical decisions.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LINDA SHADE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: shadymom_99@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 9:55 PM
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I have loved ones in my family who are gay. This is absolutely ridiculous. What is wrong with you all for even considering measures like this? I'm so ashamed of my state! We are contemplating moving to another state that is accepting of our LGBTQ friends/family.



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WITNESS NAME		
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WITNESS NAME: LINDSAY A REUSTLE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: areustle416@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:04 PM
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This bill will have an overall chilling effect on our youth. Some minors do not have a supportive and safe home, and school personnel and/or peers are the only persons that these minors have for support. Youth in these homes are more likely to experience retaliation and/or for reaching out for help at school, if notified. As a parent of an LGBTQ+ youth, I am so grateful that the public schools were there to help support and socially transition my child smoothly. Without school support, many LGBTQ + youth will have no where safe to go and are likely to experience negative social, emotional, and mental health effects as a result. It is well known in the research that trans youth without support are at a much higher risk of suicide than their peers, not as a result of being trans; however, it is due to the lack of adult support. Censorship in the classroom regarding education of gender identity and respect for gender identity is unacceptable. Youth from all LGBTQ+ backgrounds exist, and we should not be erasing them from the classroom. Again, this creates a chilling effect in the educational setting which further alienates LGBTQ+ youth. This bill puts our public schools and their personnel at risk for frivolous and unsubstantiated lawsuits. The funds, time, and energy that would be needed to fight these legal battles could be better used to serve our students.



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WITNESS NAME		
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WITNESS NAME: LISA SPAHR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: llspahr@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 2:22 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Lisa Spahr and I live in Manchester MO. I'm the parent to two children, elementary and middle-school aged. I believe our education in this district is very good, but that requires us allowing teachers to teach, not censor. It requires us to serve the whole person in our students and community, not just some. This bill has several concerning elements: 1. Force the outing of students with very limited protections2. Protect abusers with the medical procedure provision3. Create a cottage industry of litigation against districts for folks seeking payouts disingenuously4. Contradicts other legislation in the pipeline re: parental permission for medical permission. 5. Seems to prohibit necessary SEL training for teachers and curriculum for students.Let's support our schools. This doesn't do it. Let's support Missourians, this doesn't do it.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LORI STAUB		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lsstaub@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 2:03 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This is a bigoted terrible bill. Missourians are oppressed!!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LYNN BURKHART		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lburkhart6@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 5:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a retired educator and having grandchildren enrolled in MO public schools, after reading this bill, I do not see the necessity of this legislation. Parents have always been informed of concerns regarding students. Will this bill prohibit an educator from asking how a child is feeling?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LYNNE M GRONEFELD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lmelter@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 12:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Parents have the right to control what their own child(ren) read, but they cannot dictate what public schools need to do to prepare young people to be part of an educated populace. Our democracy depends on educated voters who are critical thinkers.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MADOLON PRICE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pricemt@wustl.edu	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 6:52 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

LGBT people exist and declining to educate your children about them will not make them go away. it will just make our children ignorant. Please let them live in the real world--not the one that Rep Kelly dreams about--and it is just dreams. Completely unrealistic and that is what we want our children to do? Live in a dream world? What will happen when they have to face the real world? They won't be prepared



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: MAGGIE EDMONDSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
REPRESENTING: PRO CHOICE MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1210 SOUTH VANDEVENTER AVENUE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63110
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARK KATERBERG		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: diablomarcus@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 12:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

It's shocking to hear that history is going to be silenced and that children won't be allowed to learn that their classmates have two dads. Children should learn about Stonewall and not be bullied for their families.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY GARRETT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: storytellermaryg@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:13 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Teachers are there for all the students, in their amazing range of talents, needs, beliefs, thoughts. An engaged class will build creatively on what is presented and often surprise their teachers with new connections and questions. The real world will present new challenges, and all should be welcomed to learn, about themselves, about others, and about how to build their futures. Nurturing, not judging, is the basis of education. Our students deserve no less.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARY GROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: marygva@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 1:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have 3 granddaughters in public schools in St. Louis County. They are meeting friends who identify as neither male nor female. I am proud that they are compassionate and friendly toward them, including some in their friend groups. I think this bill does a terrible disservice to my granddaughters and all students and especially to those whose gender is being questioned by the self. This bill is cruel and does not reflect real life. Our goal for the next generation of workers and professionals is to prepare them for real life. This bill is in opposition to those goals. It is cruel and heartless to disallow discussion on gender identity or about families that may have same sex parents or relatives, etc. Provision of safe spaces in schools for any student is the current practice and should be continued. Please adopt language of compassion, not cruelty. Please vote no on HB 634



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MAURA PUSATERI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: maura.pusateri@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 6:20 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MAX	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: maxwhull@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 11:07 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Hello, My name is Max, my pronouns are he/him and I am transgender. I am writing in opposition to this bill as a queer person, and future educator. This bill is discriminatory and dangerous. Silencing teachers from talking about LGBTQ+ issues or people further stigmatizes and isolates LGBTQ+ kids and also undermines existing protections for LGBTQ+ students. As a queer educator, I am a safe person for all queer students to come to. This bill is harmful and will create an unsafe environment for students. Schools are supposed to be safe places for students, forcing educators to out students, and not honor their gender identity will create an unsafe environment. This bill is fueled by hate, bigotry, homophobia, and transphobia. There are real issues in education that need to be addressed, such as bridging the technological equity gap, teacher pay, the safety of students and staff against gun violence, funding, class size and so much more. This bill has no merit, it's time to stop using students and families as collateral damage because of your personal beliefs, and start doing the job you were elected to do. Ann Kelley you are an utter disgrace because you are purposely harming students and educators. Targeting children who don't yet have a voice in politics is dishonorable.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MEGHAN CHUN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: meghanchun@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 10:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am opposed to this bill as a former educator and a citizen of Missouri. The most appalling piece of this legislation: No classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties relating to sexual orientation or gender identity shall occur. This is homophobic and transphobic. If Rep. Kelley is uncomfortable with her own gender identity or sexual orientation that is her business. But to create a potential law that would not allow discussion of this in schools is ludicrous. School is where we help children become their best selves and learn how to navigate the world. Dismissing an entire group of people-not talking about key pieces of identity...well that is harmful to all students and their growth into healthy adults. I beg of you to stop this bill from moving forward. It is hateful. It is homophobic and transphobic. And frankly I think it's a meddling in classrooms that is overreach and possibly a violation of free speech.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MEGHON ROSS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tim.meghon@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 7:56 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As the parent of two LGBTQ children, I am gravely concerned with HB 634. It will be harmful to LGBTQ children as well as to families like mine. There are many LGBTQ kids who do not have support at home and need access to adults who they can trust. My husband and I are increasingly concerned that our children will not be able to lead a good life in MO given the onslaught of anti-LGBTQ bills being introduced.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL DREYER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mdreyer93@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 8:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I urge you to oppose HB634, and any similar bills. This bill would prohibit school staff from talking to students about sexual orientation or gender identity . This bill would negatively impact both educators and students; for example, under HB634, an educator might be prohibited from mentioning their same-gender spouse for fear that they would face repercussions for doing so.LGBTQ+ students in Missouri are facing an onslaught of bills attempting to dismantle their rights. This latest bill is meant to silence LGBTQ+ students and remove spaces for them to be their authentic selves. LGBTQ+ students in Missouri are experiencing increasingly hostile school environments as support declines. These ‘Don’t Say Gay’ bills have a catastrophic effect on queer youth and silence supportive educators who are often a lifeline for them. I will fight for positive representation and visibility of LGBTQ+ communities in all schools across the State, and I stand in solidarity with LGBTQ+ youth in Missouri. I urge you to do the same by opposing this bill.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL R WALK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: athos467@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/25/2023 8:41 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Michael Walk, from St. Louis County to oppose HB 634. My daughter held a secret in her heart for a long time. We had loved her believing she was a boy for fourteen years before she finally told us she was a girl. She had known since she was in kindergarten, but she didn't feel like it was okay to tell anyone. The pain and loneliness were tearing her apart. A kid has to feel safe to confide in someone, to share who they really are. Our daughter didn't feel safe telling anyone until she was already severely depressed. She tried to put up a good show, but puberty is not a happy time for kids whose bodies don't match their brains. In our case, our daughter finally told us, her parents, who she was. For some other kids, that may not be a safe option, and that is terrifying. If our daughter had not had anyone she could trust to talk to, she would no longer be with us. Some kids are transgender or queer, but don't think their parents will understand or accept them. They need to be able to confide in someone. School counselors and teachers can be such trusted individuals, who a kid can talk to before making themselves known to the rest of the world. Criminalizing talking with a student about these topics will put students in jeopardy. It's an ethical dilemma: Talk to the student and risk being tried as a criminal? Or refuse to talk, knowing that the kid may end up engaged in self-harm, even suicide? There are several bills proposed this session which target the ability of educators to provide any but the narrowest educational experience. These bills, including the one under discussion, seek to hide proven facts because they make some people uncomfortable. In this case, it is the fact that gay people and trans people exist, that they are human. As human beings, they need to be valued and acknowledged, not made to feel that their very identity is unspeakably shameful. One more thing I want to note about this bill is the harm it would do to teachers and other school staff. As they deal with the important job of educating our youth, they seem increasingly to be vilified, even criminalized, by some people in our state. There are people who want to control every bit of information their children learn, even if what is being taught is completely accurate. Teachers are doing all of this important work while being paid the lowest starting wage in the United States. Teachers and counselors got into this work because they care about kids, and want to help them. This bill would make it impossible for them to help a group of kids who sorely need it. Indeed, the bill will accelerate both the exodus of teachers from the profession, and the "Bright Flight" we've observed here for years. Please vote no on HB 634.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MITCH WRENN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mitchwrenn@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:49 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This "Don't say Gay" bill is another Republican attempt to erase from public view anything that doesn't match the republican vision for Missouri. It has always been my understanding that parents have local control authority on such matters as attending sex education classes. Kid's should not fear talking about their own sexual orientation to a member of the public school that they trust or look up to. These kid's may not have the understanding in their own home to even talk about issues such as sexual orientation or LGBTQ feelings. I call on each on this committee to vote NO on HB634.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY COPENHAVER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-263-5725
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI		TITLE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ADDRESS: 1512 RIDGELINE DRIVE		
CITY: MOBERLY	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65270
EMAIL: copenhaver22@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:54 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

The League of Women Voters of Missouri is supportive of the rights of parents to be involved in and knowledgeable of what is happening in schools where their children are students. However, League does not want to tie the hands of caring educators to whom students may come for understanding of personal issues that may be affecting that student. Students struggling with questions about sexual orientation or gender identity need the compassionate understanding that teachers and counselors may provide. The League is concerned that the provisions in this bill may interfere with the ability of teachers to relate to and help their students as well as instructing students regarding understanding and compassion for their peers who may be different than they are.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY JOHNSTON HAVERMANN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: havermann@mindspring.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 2:38 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a retired teacher with 35 years of experience and as a parent, and grandparent I have to say I am flummoxed by this portion of the bill: "School personnel are prohibited from providing classroom instruction relating to sexual orientation or gender identity." In the ten years I spent teaching and directing a preschool, I knew of at least 5 or 6 children who were born with gender anomalies. For example, one family's newborn was determined at birth to be male but was found later to have both male and female organs. Another family was told their baby was a girl, only to find out later in the day the doctors were not sure and more testing was needed. In my elementary classes, a male student was born without testicles and needed implants to appear "normal". There are many such students out there, probably many more whose families feel shame and keep silent. ALL students need to feel accepted as they are! If that means talking about differences, so be it. Trust the teachers to approach each student's situation and needs with an open heart! They do not need input from the state or anyone beyond the child's parents. This bill should be rejected.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NAOMI HOFFMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: naomi.hoffman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 10:21 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am deeply opposed to this outrageous and bigoted law. I am a parent of a trans child and his school, Meramec Elementary, has been accepting, affirming, loving and a positive part of his life. This bill will only harm kids - ALL kids - not just kids that identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Everyone has a gender identity - both people that have identities that align with their assigned gender at birth and that people that don't. Allowing youth to learn about the full diversity of human identities will foster a more compassionate and understanding society.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NEON LIEBSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE ARB WIETHOP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arb.nicole@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 7:53 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am opposed to this bill because it would likely: Force the outing of students with very limited protections Protect abusers with the medical procedure provision Create a cottage industry of litigation against districts for folks seeking payouts disingenuously Contradict other legislation in the pipeline re: parental permission for medical permission. Prohibit necessary SEL training for teachers and curriculum for students.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE FEDORAVICIUS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: nikfed@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 6:48 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I live in the 63124 zip code. We know from years of research that talking openly about all kinds of issues normalizes things while hiding them creates a wide array of problems. I am not afraid for my kids to learn about all kinds of issues. I am not in favor of this bigoted bill



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NOAH COLETTI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: noahcoletti08@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:58 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am a concerned Missourian writing in to oppose HB 634, in particular, section 4 which would ban almost all instruction of LGBT+ topics in schools. I oppose this for many reasons. 1) This bill would damage the mental health of students. LGBT+ students are already at an increased risk of mental health problems and this bill would make things much worse. Research has shown that LGBT+ students who go to schools that support them have much better mental health. For example, research from GLSEN and The Trevor Project link LGBT+ supportive schools to better mental health and well-being. This bill would take this important resource away and harm many students. 2) Besides directly harming mental health, this bill would also undermine anti-bullying efforts. LGBT+ students face an increased risk of bullying, and this bill would make it much harder for teachers to address that issue. 3) This bill ignores that LGBT+ topics aren't inherently sexual. It is possible to mention that gay people or trans people exist without mentioning sex. Also, if the goal of section 4 of this bill was the stop the sexualization of kids, shouldn't it have directly targeted sexualization instead of LGBT+ people? 4) This bill censors useful information. Students should be able to receive accurate information about the world, and LGBT+ people exist in this world. So LGBT+ topics should not be censored from students. Another thing this bill might censor is access to accurate sex education. 5) This bill is also vague and would have a chilling effect on free speech. It is unclear what "sexual orientation or gender identity" means and how far it goes. This would force teachers to limit their speech under the threat of litigation or punishment. 6) Proponents of this bill might say that it stops the indoctrination of kids regarding LGBT+ topics. However, this is misleading, most LGBT+ education simply tells students that LGBT+ people exist and that it is ok to be LGBT+. These 2 things are not wrong. If schools are allowed to stop bullying over a student's race or support gender equality, then supporting LGBT+ acceptance is fine. Virtually all major medical organizations in the United States agree that being LGBT+ is fine, not a mental illness and that LGBT+ people should be accepted in society. 7) Finally, section 4 of this bill does not even try to protect parental rights. It does not give an opt-out option for parents regarding LGBT+ issues, it flat-out bans them. If a parent is ok with their kid learning about LGBT+ topics in school, this bill harms their parental rights. For all of these reasons, I urge you to vote NO on HB 634.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: OTTO FAJEN		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-3202	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI NEA		TITLE: LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1810 EAST ELM STREET			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: otto.fajen@mnea.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 9:26 AM	

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The Association appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony on this bill. The Association is concerned that some of these provisions are overbroad and will limit the ability of educators to understand and meet student needs and opposes the bill.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAM HILL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pamhill71@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:07 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a Missouri parent, taxpayer, and former school board member, I am opposed to this bill. Forced outing of LGBTQ students to potentially unsupportive or even abusive parents harms rather than protects some of our most vulnerable students. In addition, developmentally-appropriate education about sexual orientation or gender identity is an essential part of sex education. Heterosexuality and cis-gender orientations are part of this instruction. This portion of the bill essential prevents sex education. This also takes away local control from school districts.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: PAT HOMMES		PHONE NUMBER: 314-313-2691	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: YOUTH IN NEED		TITLE: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	
ADDRESS: 12 OXFORD PL			
CITY: SAINT CHARLES		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63301
EMAIL: phommess@youthinneed.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:50 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I'm the CEO of Youth In Need, a nonprofit organization that serves over 8,000 children, youth and young adults each year in eastern Missouri. Youth In Need was founded and is headquartered in St. Charles, where I am a lifelong resident. Youth In Need has an annual operating budget of almost \$30 million, and we employ 400 staff. Our programs include crisis outreach and shelter for youth who are homeless, mental health counseling for kids of all ages, foster care, and early learning for young children. What I know from our 50+ mental health counselors who are based in elementary, middle and high schools in 17 school districts throughout St. Charles County, Lincoln County, and St. Louis County is that kids' mental health is in crisis. The rates of depression and suicide are alarming and rising. LGBTQ youth are particularly vulnerable to suicide risk, not because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, but because of how they are bullied and mistreat. Having a trusted adult to talk to can help all children and youth learn healthy coping skills and social skills so they can have a positive sense of well being and function well at home, in school, and in the community. House Bill 634 would ban those trusted adults from responding when kids want to talk about someone they have a crush on or how they feel, or put those trusted adults in the position of having to immediately inform parents. In Youth In Need's work with minors and in schools, our goal is always to facilitate communication between youth and their parents. However, we see all too many times when youth are kicked out of their homes or physically abused by their parents if they are questioning or exploring their sexual orientation or gender identity. Having time to thoughtfully and therapeutically broach these conversations can lead to the best outcome for the young person and the family. I also want to address the fallacy that youth are being encouraged to become gay or transgender. In my 33 years at Youth In Need, I have seen that LGBTQ youth are widely over-represented in the homeless youth population. These youth come from a variety of backgrounds and situations, but what they have in common is that they are homeless because they have been rejected by their families. Most have tried desperately to change or hide their sexual orientation or gender identity, because they loved their families and were terrified at the prospect of having no safe place to live. I can tell you with certainty that not accepting LGBTQ kids does not make them straight, it just makes them miserable, and at high risk to be victims of sex trafficking and violence. Like all youth, LGBTQ young deserve to be in positive school environments where they feel valued and visible, not silenced and shunned. As a licensed school professional who has devoted over 30 years to alleviating suffering and distress for children and youth in Missouri, I truly believe this would cause needless harm by sending the message that being gay or transgender is so shameful that it cannot be discussed. Please respect the humanity of our LGBTQ children and youth.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RABBI DANIEL BOGARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RABBI NOAH ARNOW		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: REBECCA WATSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rdcolnar@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 10:13 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

How would this even be enforced? Who decides what is "instruction" of sexual orientation or gender? As soon as a teacher introduces themselves as Mr. or Mrs. have they broken the law? If they mention their spouse have they broken the law? Leave LGBTQ people alone.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: REGAN WALDEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: regan.walden@outlook.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 8:45 AM

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I would have liked to attend this in person to provide this testimony, however due to an injury I am unable to. I do believe opposing this to be important enough to warrant a trip to testify in person. I want to submit testimony specifically in regard to the part of this bill that dictates "No classroom instruction by school personnel or third parties relating to sexual orientation or gender identity shall occur. This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit voluntary counseling." I am a member of the LGBT community and legislation like this only hurts kids like me. It only hurts educators who are like me. It would be one thing if you were disallowing sexual instruction of any kind, but to single out instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity only serves to ostracize the most vulnerable of us. It promotes the ideology that folks who are born LGBT have something wrong with us. And the fact that this encompasses elementary and secondary school is, in my opinion, more than excessive. Everyone I have known since high school has said I should become an educator--and legislation like this is why I decided against pursuing this field. Missouri is not a safe place to be LGBT--and it's especially unsafe for LGBT educators. This bill claims to want to protect "parental rights" but it hurts LGBT kids--who do exist--and educators. Are parents more important than children and LGBT adults? Is it the state's place to decide this? Big Government bills like this are what force LGBT individuals to leave MO, and they're why I'm looking to move out of state away from everyone I love. Away from my home. Ed Lewis, you know me. Please consider my thoughts when you decide on how you will vote on bills like this and others in the future. And feel free to reach out to me anytime.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD C. SHAW M.D.		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mashaw5@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 12:52 PM
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Mary Ann Shaw and Richard Shaw are very much opposed to restricting the education of children regarding sexuality. Education is the most important tool children will have in becoming wise and tolerant citizens. Children do not need to be protected from knowledge--they need all the knowledge they can acquire. This is very misguided oversight of teachers who are trained to educate. Narrow ideology has no place in education!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD KURZ		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kurzrs@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 11:50 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am writing to oppose HB 634. The reality of different sexual orientations cannot be ignored and hidden from children. Some of their classmates might be gay and they need to know that these individuals are as normal as they are. It is hard to understand the motivation behind this legislation. Does the author think that if we don't recognize these differences that they will go away? Being homosexual is not learned behavior; it is a born trait just as is being heterosexual. Defeat this attempt at discrimination and prejudice.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RONNA POHLMAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ronnapohlman@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 1:23 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

One of the greatest human beings I've ever know was my brother Greg who died prematurely from cancer at the age of 63. He was generous, kind, spoke often of his Jesuit roots, and was also a daunting pro-life activist. To erase him as a human being simply b/c of his sexual orientation is truly sad to me and to all of the people he embraced with love.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SALLY DOWNEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sldowney1025@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 4:27 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This bill is totally unnecessary and is only meant to further divide our communities. This is a solution without a problem. Parents already have rights and do not need the government's help in parenting. Let's focus on things that really matter—like free lunch for every student.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH VANSLETTE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sarahvanslette@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 8:16 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Stop inserting your religion into public education. LGBTQ people are community members, and have contributed to society since dawn of time. Erasing them from books and discussions only serves to demonize good people and make children who identify as LGBTQ feel like outcasts. Your religious beliefs about them have nothing to do with public school curriculum.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH YOSELEVSKY KAYE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: syoselevsky@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 10:26 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Once again, Rep Kelley is just trying to get headlines instead of actually helping the citizens of MO. Maybe, Rep Kelley should think about introducing bills that could help with food insecurity, better education in the state of Missouri, or perhaps clean water? Really, any of those things would be a help. I think the big question is why on earth would Mrs. Kelley want to make the jobs of teachers harder and the lives of LGBTQ+ people harder? We already have a teacher shortage. It is unconscionable that this woman is doing this. She should be working FOR every citizen of MO, not just the ones she likes. I can't change her prejudiced beliefs, but she should at least leave people alone and let them live their lives without making things harder. It would be awesome if she would also do her job and help all citizens of MO, but I know that's a lot to ask.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SCOTT MCKELLAR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mck9@swbell.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 6:00 AM

**THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
HB 634 is a mandate for systematically enforced ignorance. It's got to go.**



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SELA MASAHI		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SERRALESA IVENER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: serralesa@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 1:00 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I don't want the Missouri Legislature bringing down my home value. I live in Clayton Missouri. My house is my biggest asset. The state of Missouri doesn't know what is best for my world reknown public school's curriculum and what keeps us competitive. If my school district is restricted on it can teach it will not be able to compete. Wealthier, educated families will send their kids to Private schools. Fewer people will choose Clayton and lower the demand and price of my home. I can't afford that. What happened to local control?



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHARON TUCKER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sherry.tucker1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 2:37 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am outraged that our legislature would even consider such a hateful bill as this and the other anti-LGBTQ bills. It is cruel to kids who are different, vulnerable kids who already have the burden of working through difficult personal and social issues. You should be focused on legislation to provide improve Missouri schools. Instead, this and other anti-trans legislation aims to punish trans and gay children, to make them invisible, unwanted, unaccepted, and unable to deal positively with their struggles. Just because there is a vocal minority of parents who feel this way about gay and trans children doesn't mean the state should codify their views into law. Do not pass this abusive bill.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SLOAN SHEFFIELD COWELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: sloansheffield13@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 8:34 PM
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SOPHIA FOLEY WHITMAN (WREN)		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: STACEY M. MCMACKIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: staceymcm@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 4:16 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The elected legislators of our Assembly do NOT have the right to remove the right of our children to learn about all members of our society, and their struggle for equal rights. As an educator of 45 years, I have personally experienced what ignorance and intolerance of gender identity can lead to..;I have personal experience with teachers and students who have been forced to hide their gender identity because of fear of retribution, exclusion and even violence. And now the House is considering a bill that will exclude these teachers and students from encountering the reality of their own existence in our society and our history? This bill's intent is based on fear and intolerance of differences in gender identity, or some mis-guided view of what's moral or in line with the spiritual beliefs of the majority of religions. If a legislator's personal belief system sees the teaching of gender identity issues as immoral or dangerous, it can only be a reactionary attempt to exclude certain groups of people from having a voice, an education, and power in our society. It's so transparent, and so disheartening to see Missouri leading the way in this movement. Vote against censorship, intolerance and taking away the right to a free and unrestricted education by our children. You had those freedoms in your public education. You have no right to take them away from our children.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STACY CAY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE CLEMENS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHEN TAYLOR		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN GIBSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Onesuegibson@protonmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/24/2023 7:42 PM
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Seeks to defund public education and harm/endanger LGBTQ+ children. The proposal is harmful to children who may feel comfortable confiding in a trusted teacher and may be unsafe at home.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUSAN LAMMERT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: susanlammert@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 3:11 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

It is appalling to know that Rep. Kelly's phobic views can be projected in to laws of our state that deny the existence of gender differences that offend her. What about the children who identify as other than cisgender? How would she feel if she were to be erased from her identity.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE GODFREY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: suziegodfrey2@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 8:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a Christian minister, a pastor at a church in Lee's Summit, a public school teacher, and the mom of three kids. One of my children is non-binary/transgender. I am writing to express my opposition to HB 634. My youngest child came home from school one day last year, ecstatic that her teacher had acknowledged the existence of non-binary people. It meant so much to her, as a sibling of a non-binary person, to know that her sibling was seen and valued rather than ignored or treated as shameful. As a minister and a pastor, I value the worth of all people. The members of my congregation who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community are upstanding citizens who are just trying to live their lives authentically. While my values as a Christian prompt me to defend the LGBTQIA+ community, I know many who support HB 634 do so because of their Christian values. I would remind those people that our democracy is not a theocracy, and that their personal religious beliefs should not be used to infringe on the ability of any group of people to be treated with dignity and respect. This bill seeks to force teachers and school staff to pretend LGBTQIA+ people do not exist, even though they are already a part of our school communities. Worse, it could put LGBTQIA+ youth in danger. It will cause alienation and division rather than understanding and unity. As a teacher, I am horrified that my fellow Missourians would even consider HB 634. Our teachers are under enough pressure already, without worrying that they will lose their jobs for simply acknowledging the existence of gay people. Am I not allowed to acknowledge the family of the boy in my class who has two moms? What about the teacher at my school, a woman who is married to a woman? Can she not mention her wife at school? Am I not allowed to mention my non-binary child? Such a bill is hurtful and an undue burden on teachers. I can think of about a thousand ways you could help teachers right now, but this bill does nothing but harm teachers and students. I beg you to vote no on HB 634.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE MCGINNIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: suzmas4@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 9:07 PM
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I have great concern with the wording of this bill as blanket rules and statements with unintended consequences. The use of the word "gender identity" limits greatly instruction in class. What is gender identity? Is that using he and she and if so, how will kids learn to read and write without using these words? Using the Bible and morals to write laws about a classroom lessons is not ok. Morals should be taught at home, and if you are strong in your morals, it should not matter what is taught in school. School should be a safe place for ALL students. Students need to have adults that they feel comfortable coming to with concerns and fears. This, and similar bills will lead to an unsafe environment and increased bullying situations because these kids can't talk to anyone at school about what is going on. Indoctrination, woke agenda are the buzz words of today. Kids in the LBGT spectrum live in a heteronormative world. There is no indoctrination in school. Heck, my kid has said so many times they wished there had been some sort of lesson on LBGT terminology so they could have known what to say. This is 2023 in the USA, not 1933 in Germany. Please stop these bills before they do actually hurt kids, young adults, parents, families and even adults. Thank you



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education			
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SUZANNE WHITMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TARA ANURA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: taraanuraformissouri@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 4:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I'm a queer resident and public educator in Rolla, MO. I oppose HB 634 (Kelley R-127), which bans instruction in all public and charter schools from mentioning gender identity or sexual orientation. This means teachers will not be able to discuss any book that involves LGBTQ+ people or has a romantic relationship within the book, they cannot mention LGBTQ+ history, and they cannot discuss anything to do with human relationships. Members of the LGBTQ+ community are members of your community and we are a part of American and Missouri history. Rodney Wilson, a Missouri history teacher, started LGBT History Month in 1994. It is now celebrated worldwide.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_History_Month Each month has a theme that is linked to national curriculum. 2023 is TV and Film - 'Behind The Lens' Missouri has elected gay officials. LGBT people are elected for the first time. First out transgender Alderwoman in the Country was elected in 2006 right here in Missouri. Jessica Orsini was an Alderwoman for Ward III in Centralia and was reelected twice. In 1994, Tim Van Zandt became Missouri's first openly gay state representative. With proposed Missouri bans on Black history and LGBTQ+ issues and history schools would have to leave out teaching about writers James Baldwin (1924-1987) "Go Tell it on the Mountain", Lorraine Hansberry (1930-1965) "A Raisin in the Sun" You'd have to leave out how Elizabeth Taylor advocated for gay men and co-founded the American Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR) which is a major part of America's AIDS epidemic history. I know there are elected officials who don't want us to say gay, or talk about it, or live our lives but we will anyway. Missouri and American history includes gay citizens and we won't be ashamed and we don't want our young students, family members, and friends to be ashamed either. Save that for your personal religious beliefs.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TAYLOR DESLOGE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: thdesloge@att.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 3:09 PM
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Gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are citizens of this country and state and play an important role in its history. This month is black history month: how would children ever learn of the totality of the black experience in America without learning about the contributions of LGBT African Americans like James Baldwin, Langston Hughes, Pauli Murray or avatars Rustin or Barbara Jordan? Not just LGBT kids but all Missourians will be harmed by this bill, which seeks to erase an entire community from the classroom. We should be preparing our youth to be citizens of a diverse and free society; one where they are likely to live and work with people of all stripes including LGBT people. It does nobody any good to shelter children from that reality or to teach them to look at people who are different with fear and disgust. It does no good as well to place a target on teachers, particularly LGBT teachers, who will constantly have to fear for their careers because of this bill. Finally, this misplaced name of so-called "parental rights" actively impinges on the parental rights of LGBT families by excluding them entirely from curricula. LGBT Missourians are parents, brothers, sisters, friends and family and deserve so much better than this. We all deserve so much better.



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WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TERESA JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: teresa.merlo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 12:01 AM
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No!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023	
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TERICA DONNELLY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: terica@wasteoftime.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 11:04 PM
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I oppose this protection of parental rights. This bill is extreme and may prevent factual information in high school health class. It may also prevent learning about important points in history or current events.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TERRENCE FIALA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: terrencefiala@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 3:44 PM
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I'm asking you to please not vote in favor of these bills as they will only hurt children and are nothing more than a scare tactic to discriminate.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: THE REVEREND MIKE ANGELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS FERRI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: thomas.m.ferri@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 9:41 AM

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Redundant culture war crap. We already have parental rights.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: THOMAS SEBACHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: thomassebacher@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 9:38 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Thomas Sebacher, and I am a graduate student in the Master of Arts in Public History program at Southeast Missouri State University. I graduated with bachelor's in philosophy & religion and history from Truman State University. My current research regards the history of mental health treatment and sexuality in the state of Missouri, and I have written a book for the Missouri Hospital Association regarding its 100 years of history. I testify in opposition to this bill from a logical perspective as well as a historical perspective. With all due respect, the bill has two major flaws; it amounts to a poor attempt to "out" queer children to their parents and a denial of the existence of sexual orientation and gender identity in the public education system. Here, we'll begin by focusing on the first problem: although the bill's opponents may claim that it does not require the disclosure of sexual orientation or transgender status to parents, the wording of the bill in subsections 1 and 2 requires disclosure of "mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, a change in related services or monitoring." This is based on an outdated and misguided assumption that sexuality or gender represent "mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being," which, according to the professional guidelines set by the Diagnostic Statistical Manual (DSM) is not the case. This would also violate the ethics of the field of psychology if a school psychologist or counselor believed that this disclosure would lead to emotional or physical harm of their patient. This bill would therefore encourage the psychological community to either violate or trivialize their professional obligations to their patients. Alternatively, the requirement would propose a breach of confidential mental health information. According to Missouri regulations, the disclosure of an "individual's" confidential information, not the client's confidential information (20 CSR 2235-5.030, subsection 2A). The parent may be the client in this case, but confidential information including "issues directly affecting the physical or emotional safety of the individual" do not relate to the client. As sexual orientation and gender identity directly affect this physical and emotional safety (see American Psychological Association's "APA Resolution on Supporting Sexual/Gender Diverse Children and Adolescents in Schools," Feb. 2020), the bill as proposed would argue that the state should violate its own established code of ethics for the sake of parents' rights. My second objection is that the bill violates not only previous Missouri laws regarding sexual education, but also internationally established best practices for comprehensive sexual education. Regarding the first point, the state of Missouri has very clear guidelines for the discussion of sexuality in schools in Title XI 170.015. Since this bill bans discussion or instruction regarding sexual orientation in school, which includes implicitly both heterosexual and homosexual orientations, this would make the fulfillment of Title XI impossible (see Jonathan Ned Katz's "The Invention of Heterosexuality" and John D'Emilio and Estelle B. Freedman's "Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America). It also makes any discussion of men or women impossible, as both of these are gender identities, according to established historical and sociological interpretation (see Joan Wallach Scott's "Gender: A Useful Category of Historical Analysis" and similar

works). Meanwhile, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) "International Technical Guidance on Sexuality Education" argues that sexual orientation is an integral part of sexual education. Banning this educated discussion on gender identity and sexual orientation would not effectively protect students and would strain the state's mental and physical health resources. It could also contribute to increased transmission of HIV/AIDS among the general population; men who have sex with men (MSM) are a group with acknowledged higher risk, and thus constitute a vulnerable population. HIV has and will continue to spread extensively outside of this group, and this could strain already scarce resources in the state for the disease's surveillance and treatment. As sexually transmitted disease education is mandated (as previously noted, in Title XI) by state law, this would be contrary established state regulation and spark significant confusion. Aside from the general absurdity of banning teaching regarding gender identity and sexual orientation in Missouri public schools, it is highly unethical educationally. Educational institutions, especially primary and secondary public schools, have a duty to prepare their students for the world that surrounds them. Ignoring these two categories will leave our students unprepared for their inevitable contacts with transgender individuals and those with alternative sexualities. Any parents that propose to challenge this should realize the consequences of their actions may very well harm their own children. I remember the issues I confronted when I witnessed the protests in Ferguson during my junior year of high school. I was completely bewildered. I had been repeatedly informed that racial strife was a thing of the past. I was under the impression that the Civil Rights Movement had successfully remedied all the problems of racial inequality. I was not prepared to discuss the topic, nor did I understand how race and racial issues permeate society still to this day. I only became equipped to understand the events in Ferguson years after the protests and violence had ended. I urge that the committee reconsider this proposal. It violates ethical standards for a variety of professions, educational standards the state previously established, and it will lead to the coddling of children to the point that they will be unequipped to understand the society in which they live. It will lead to unnecessary emotional and physical distress. It will strain already scarce state resources in critical areas. Altogether, parental rights to know about their children should not extend to knowledge that could negatively predispose them to their own child, especially that will cause undue emotional or physical harm to the child.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TIMOTHY SHERIDAN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tmr.sheridan@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 7:12 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This just another hate bill presented as a "childrens wellness" bill. It offers "solutions" to a problem that does not exist. It is a waste of taxpayer money and presents Missouri to the world as a hateful place that puts the rights of it's citizens beneath the personal opinions of a few politicians pandering for votes and close minded faith based groups.



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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: TOM JACKSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM	
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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TRICIA ROSE-SANDLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: trosesandler@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 3:53 PM
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I am in opposition to this legislation or any legislation that tries to rewrite history or pretend certain groups of people and the impact they made in US history is not of value. I send my daughter to a public school in St Louis and want her to be exposed to all US history (not just that history that makes certain groups of people feel comfortable). This legislation is not protecting my rights as a parent and in fact would be violating my parental rights. I want my child to understand and be taught about the wide variety of people and their stories that have impacted us as US citizens.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TRISH GUNBY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: gunbyfamily@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 11:09 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Twenty-five years ago, the issue around parental rights and education made news at the federal level. Over the last few years, we've seen these efforts move to state legislatures as evidenced by bills like HB 482, HB 627 and HB 634. Arguments made decades ago are still relevant today. According to the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), an educator-support organization that has worked for 80 years on issues like condemning censorship in schools in the 1940s, supporting civil rights and equity in the 1950s and 1960s and protecting the integrity of public schools in the 1980s, their response in 1997 to this issue still holds true. "Now it is time to move away from legislation and the courts and back to our schools and communities to solve the issues that divide us and work for the common good. It is the most we can do for our children." I urge you to reconsider your legislation as it exemplifies government overreach and an expansive effort by the state to dictate what school districts and their boards should be handling. Reach out to school districts already doing the hard work engaging parents and advocating for ALL students. There are hundreds of success stories and I personally know of LGBTQ+ students and families saved by professionals in their school communities. Your legislation will put these families and students at risk. Please stop.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: VALERIE VERHAS TOSKIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 12:00 AM
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TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: VANESSA ANN WELLBERY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-325-9303	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: ADVOCATES OF PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF THE ST. LOUIS REGION AND SOUTHWEST MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 4251 FOREST PARK AVENUE			
CITY: ST. LOUIS		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63108
EMAIL: vanessa.wellbery@ppslr.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 3/1/2023 6:58 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

March 1, 2023 To: Elementary and Secondary Education Re: Testimony in opposition to HB 634 My name is Vanessa Wellbery and as Vice President of Policy and Advocacy of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri (PPSLRSWMO), I testify in opposition to HB 634 as discriminatory and harmful to LGBTQ+ youth in our state. PPSLRSWMO proudly provides respectful, equitable, and evidence-based health services, sexuality education, and counseling, including services and education that affirms and centers LGBTQ+ communities. The experts providing these educational services and trainings center social justice and freedom from all forms of oppression, seek to reduce health inequities for those most marginalized, and see firsthand the positive impact of empowering people of all ages with knowledge, skills, and affirmation to advocate for their own sexual health. We are alarmed at the attempts of HB 634 to silence students and the educators they trust for support and accurate information. LGBTQ+ youth already experience marginalization, bullying, and discrimination, which imposes dangerous psychological stress. Trans youth report staggering rates of suicide attempts. What we know to be true, what the data confirms, is that we can optimize the health of LGBTQ+ young people — including transgender young people — by affirming their identities, supporting them, and securing their safety and ability to speak freely without fear of retribution. This legislation does the opposite. HB 634 is an affront to our state’s educators who have dedicated their careers to creating an inclusive, welcoming, and safe environment for all young people. It inhibits their ability to have open, honest communications with students who turn to them for guidance or trusted information. It polices them for the educational content of their curricula. This is a dangerous precedent, and it will take Missouri backwards. Instead of targeting students with discriminatory measures like HB 634, we encourage this legislature to focus on measures that protect and affirm LGBTQ+ young people, and provide our state’s educators the support and resources to advance the wellbeing and academic growth of ALL students. Please oppose HB 634. From: Vanessa Wellbery, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy vanessa.wellbery@ppslr.org Advocates of Planned Parenthood of the St. Louis Region and Southwest Missouri (PPSLRSWMO)



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 634		DATE: 3/1/2023
COMMITTEE: Elementary and Secondary Education		
TESTIFYING: <input type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: VIRGINIA V SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ginger.smith@charter.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 9:02 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I strongly oppose HB 634. Can't we just let people live their lives? Aren't you, Sponsor, one who espouses personal freedoms? Who cares if school aged children are exposed to non-traditional families or non-sis (sp?) gender roles? Can't this introduce an opportunity for families to share their beliefs with their children? This is wrong and moving Missouri backward. This is also an embarrassment to Missouri to see us again in the national news. This will hurt new business development. Why would a large, national business choose to move here vs Kansas or Illinois where all employees' rights are protected? I wouldn't do it. This is wrong for Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WENDY BAIRD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wendy.e.baird@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/27/2023 3:41 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Our educators are struggling. They are overworked, overstressed and underpaid. And now this bill proposes another burden where they cannot support their students and meet them where they are. Our students can only learn when they are seen. When they connect. When they can be their true, authentic selves. Relationships are everything. It's why educators work so hard to build a community in their classrooms. And for a student who may be thinking of self harm, or worse, because of the constant, hateful rhetoric from the people elected to serve them, a teacher may be their only lifeline to stay on this Earth. Stop bullying children. Stop bullying teachers. Just stop. Please.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WENDY MILLER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wendymiller12@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/28/2023 8:55 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a graduate of Northwest High School in Jefferson County, MO. I don't remember there being much diversity in high school. I remember going to college and my first college internship where I met people from many different backgrounds and thinking how different it was from being in Jefferson County, MO. I now have a student in the Northwest district and I don't want my child's learning experiences about LGBTQ+ and different races being limited so that they are at a disadvantage when going to college and joining the workforce. It is important to learn how to co-exist people of different backgrounds. I am very concerned that several parts of this bill will harm the education children receive in Missouri schools. Thank you, Wendy Miller



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM COULSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: billcou@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/26/2023 11:34 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

HB 634 is a fascist threat to education. Mrs Kelley should seek a mental health professional for her irrational bigotry.