

Submitter: Beatrice Shapiro  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Education  
Measure: SB1583

Dear Senators:

I support SB 1583 because students deserve full, uncensored access to information - period. They should learn about the people, ideas and events that have shaped this state, nation and the entire world, regardless if it makes some "uncomfortable."

Students should also have access to books and materials that reflect who they are, be they people of color, part of the LGBTQ+ community, or any other minority group.

Historically, book bans have been conducted by oppressive, authoritarian governments, not Democracies such as ours. I know this because I have had uncensored access to books my entire life!

A vote for SB 1583 is a vote for freedom, education, inclusivity and common sense. A vote against SB 1583 puts you in the same company as history's most notorious dictators, all of whom were "bigly" into book bans.

Thank you for considering my testimony.