

Submitter: Ash Rhovan
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1583

I grew up in an organization which restricted a lot of information that didn't align exactly with their beliefs. I was lucky enough to have parents who were more open minded and allowed us to read whatever books we wanted to. This allowed me access to a wide variety of opinions and ideas, as well as access to information not presented in our private school. I was given the chance to explore ideas and concepts that helped me make my way through the world as a child and as an adult, free from the biases present in our church culture. I truly believe that this access made me a more well-rounded person, and I believe all children should have the chance to learn based on scientific facts and encouraged to explore a variety of viewpoints, which should not be prohibited in/by public schools based on the biases of those making choices for materials.

I know the importance of access to books, without restriction. It opened up the world for me.