

Lisa Cataldi

From: Jennifer Bose <jenbose@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 7:18 PM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: Fwd: AGAINST H7539 (anti-gay, anti-trans, anti-racial justice)

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jennifer Bose** <jenbose@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Apr 13, 2022 at 7:17 PM

Subject: AGAINST H7539 (anti-gay, anti-trans, anti-racial justice)

To: <rep-ackerman@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-alzate@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-amore@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-azzinaro@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-bennett@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-blazejewski@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-casimiro@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-cassar@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-donovan@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-giraldo@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-mcnamara@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-phillips@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-roberts@rilegislature.gov>, <rep-speakman@rilegislature.gov>

My name is Jennifer Bose. I am a Rhode Island voter. I am writing to express strong opposition to H7539. This bill is a copycat of some of the worst legislation we are seeing around the country right now. It makes it so teachers can't have real conversations about the history of this country and current events in a way that helps young people to understand how race and privilege impacts different communities. It also has the awful "don't say gay" type language many states are pushing by specifically barring discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity. This is incredibly harmful to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people in our schools, but also goes against efforts to create inclusive schools where we respect all people. Finally, it also has language around not being able to teach about political activism, which sounds like an attack on the ability of government teachers to talk about organizing and protests, which regardless of any particular political stance is troubling given that this is supposed to be a participatory democracy where we each get a voice in the laws and policies of our nation. This bill is concerning for many reasons and way out of touch with the values of our state. Please, vote NO ON H7539.

Thank you.
Jennifer Bose
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