

Steven Sepe

From: Kathleen Berkeley <kayberkeley7@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:30 AM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: Freedom to Read Bill

Dear Mr. Shanley and Vice Chairs,

My name is Kathleen Berkeley and I am writing a testimony in regard to Bill H7386/S2281, The Freedom To Read.

I am FOR this bill passing, as it is the responsibility of the government at all levels to protect the freedom to read and to support the right of free people to read freely. Free public libraries are supposed to provide equitable access to information to all citizens.

It should be a policy of the state to protect the freedom of libraries from external limitations and attempts to ban, remove, and censor books and materials. The partisan disapproval of certain materials should be a simple opinion, but not one that can control what we can access in a public forum.

Thank you,

Kathleen