



April 3rd, 2025
In Favor of HB5726

Hello, my name is Faith Zweh and I am a youth leader at ARISE. I support HB5726 for the reason that books can be a powerful thing.

I remember being in elementary school and asking my mom the night before for some change so I can get books from the book fair. At that point, I was in a place where reading and books were not my thing. So, I ended up getting the money and buying one book I loved, "The Night Gardener." This book demonstrated the inequality between a rich family and poor orphans. I've seen books that have been banned because of inequality among various social identities such as race and ethnicity, economic status, and political affiliation or stance. My question is, will this book be next?

I think the freedom to read is important because it allows people to explore diverse cultures and understand many different perspectives. Not every person is the same. I want to have access to books like these in the future and my request is that this bill is supported.

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