

February 12, 2022

Chairwoman Kristey Williams and Committee Members
Room 546-S, State Capital
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: HB2662 Parent Bill of Rights

Dear Representative Williams and Committee Members,

My name is April Cremer. I am a 5th-grade teacher in Overland Park, Kansas, and have been teaching for 15 years. I am writing in opposition to HB2662 also referred to as the Parent Bill of Rights.

This bill has many components that concern me as a teacher. First, the requirement that ALL learning materials must be posted by June 30th. "Learning materials" includes, but is not limited to, textbooks, reading materials, curriculum, syllabi, outlines, handouts, presentations, videos, audio and digital materials, websites and other online applications, and any other material that is used for student instruction. This would be a huge undertaking for staff, taking a lot of off-contract time to compile all of the resources. I am already working past contract time to get my weekly lesson plans finished and attend to the multitude of other duties and requirements related to teaching. I am not currently required to type out or submit lesson plans. Requiring a year of lesson plans to be posted with rationales would add stress to an already stressful position, leading many highly qualified veteran teachers to find a different career.

Currently, parents have access to our curriculum, state standards, online textbooks, parent newsletters, and our Canvas pages. Many of our resources have copyright guidelines that we have to follow and can not be posted on public pages. Would we have to break the law to follow the law? I am also concerned about students being able to view a copy of each test, questionnaire, survey, or examination before it has been administered.

Teaching is an art and science that I continue to develop daily. The science is following the standards and curriculum and methods that I have learned through college, graduate school, and continuing education. The art, however, is how I connect with students at their level, provide meaningful content that they will enjoy learning, and adjust at a moment's notice. Taking away the art, and requiring more ridiculous laws will cause many more teachers to leave this stressful and poorly funded job. We are professionals who are not being treated as such.

Due to 1) The time and effort to fulfill the requirements, 2) parents having access to many of the items requested in this bill, and 3) Not trusting the professionals to do their jobs, I request that you oppose HB2662.

Sincerely,



Ms. April Cremer
4840 W. 62nd Terrace
Mission, KS 66205
aprilcremer@gmail.com