

To: Senate Education Committee
Re: HB2236
From: Carol Fields
DT: 3/7/2023

Dear Chair Baumgardner and Education Committee Members:

I am writing in opposition to HB2236, because it is a red herring bill, implying that parents do not already have a say in their school systems via school board local & state elections, PTA's and newer electronic access, etc. It also implies that teachers will tell children untruths and must act in accordance with the beliefs (not facts) of each and every parent. With separation of church and state, parents have the right to teach their children their religion, but not in public schools or with public dollars.

We must be mindful of the need to encourage more young people into teaching, instead of mistrusting teachers, especially given the number of current open positions.

I think HB2236 will tie the hands of teachers in making good lessons plans, diminishing the quality of teachers and education, as it pushes teachers out of the profession and sabotages public education, the very foundation of a society that shares enough common ideas to foster a strong democracy, not one fighting with hot-button phrases dividing up citizens into camps, instead of making government work the best it can.

Thank you for your service in the Legislature.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Fields, ever grateful for good teachers, without ever being one.
Roeland Park, Ks