

December 20, 2021

Hon. Tom Wolf
Office of the Governor
Main Capitol Room 508
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Via E-Mail

Dear Governor Wolf,

We write to urge you to **veto HB 1332**, which requires school entities to post on the school or district website the titles of all books used, a course syllabus or description, and the state academic standards for every instructional course, and to post any changes within 30 days. The legislation is unnecessary, and opens up teachers to harassment and attack from groups and individuals who seek to promote political goals. The bill's intent is to rollback efforts to create more diverse and inclusive learning environments for students.

The legislation is part of a nationwide effort by forces seeking to undermine public support for public schools by spreading fear and misinformation. It comes at a time when school boards, like other institutions in our society, are implementing programs to be more inclusive, incorporate culturally relevant instructional and materials, and more intentionally address issues of bias and racism in our laws and institutions. This legislation will replace thoughtful and sometimes difficult conversations within school districts and communities with anger, ignorance, and vitriol from individuals with an axe to grind.

The bill is unnecessary and counter-productive to creating inclusive learning environments. School districts already have processes to involve parents and the public in important policy decisions, including curriculum.

It will also take teachers out of the classroom and away from students unnecessarily and is particularly burdensome for those in under-resourced school districts. It will harm efforts to recruit and retain teachers. And it will negatively impact efforts to have honest and open discussions with students in culturally competent ways.

We urge you to veto this legislation and take a stand against censorship and intimidation in our communities and schools.

Sincerely,



Deborah Gordon Klehr
Executive Director

Cc: Sen. Majority Leader Kim Ward
Sen. Democratic Leader Jay Costa
House Majority Leader Kerry Benninghoff
House Democratic Leader Joanna McClinton