

I wholeheartedly support the common sense bill HB1242 and appreciate this rational and pragmatic bill. As it seeks to maintain the fundamental right of parents to make the best decisions for their children's health, education, and overall care and welfare, it is much appreciated. These rights are increasingly coming under attack by legislation that seeks to undermine parents choices for their children. It is encouraging to see a bill on the table that seeks to support us in our parenting efforts. Thank you!

Parenting is already a challenging endeavor and having constant legislative interference in our decision making is just not necessary. Parents have a interest in doing what's best for their kids without being encumbered by financial or political motivations. Consequently, parents should never lose the right to decide what is best for them until they are legally, mentally and emotionally capable of taking on that role for themselves. In 1979 the Supreme Court ruled that adolescents "simply are not able to make sound judgments concerning many decisions, including their need for medical care or treatment. Parents can and must make those judgments." This idea is also backed up by many valid scientific studies. Thank you for understanding that parents need to be able to maintain the right to protect their children from making rash, potentially harmful decisions born out of immaturity, lack of information and a limited worldview.

Although there are certainly occasions when laws must come into play to protect children who are in abusive or dangerous situations, this is absolutely NOT the case for most kids. Usurping the authority of all parents to address concerns related to a very small number of parents is not a reasonable course of action...ever.

Thank you again for putting this bill forward. We need more practical and rational legislation that supports, rather than undermines, parents. We are doing our best to raise healthy, emotionally stable children who can become contributing members of society. Bills like this will assist us in those efforts.

Bests regards,

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