

CSE (HF 358) should not be allowed in the schools. Here are my objections:

- **Parental desire for CSE HF 358 to be taught based on insufficient survey.** Sydney Jordan, author of the bill, has stated “Parents overwhelmingly want this bill”. This skewed consensus was a result of a survey given to Minnesota parents with school age children. Besides being an inadequate and misleading survey, asking only general questions that most parents might surely agree with, it was deceitful in that parents were not provided with the materials and 3 books that were to be used for this CSE. How can parents truthfully offer their best answer to this survey without knowing the extent to which their children will actually be taught because of the use of the graphic materials you are planning to use? It has even been described as “pornographic”.
- **Parents desire to teach their children according to their own timing and agenda.** It is the parents’ job to teach their children sex education as per parental wishes and guidelines. There is potential to break the trust between parent and child when another source is involved replacing the parent. Parents are the primary teachers of their children and know better the correct time to approach sex education for them. The alternative, CSE being taught at an inappropriate time for their child because they are in a classroom with a curriculum to fulfill, and with someone else determining when they are ready, is not the best choice for the child. How is it possible that each child in every classroom would always be ready to learn at the same time and in the way each parent desires as the best for their child? The subjects provided in these books should be left for parents to decide if and when they want to approach each child instead of automatically being taught to children from a book that most parents have probably not even seen. For example, some parents may object to the topics of “consent”, “culturally diverse individuals” or “services related to sexual reproduction and health” being taught to their child via someone else’s opinion.
- **Inappropriate content of the learning materials.** The use of “cutesy” kids illustrations in the sex education books chosen in this bill is not a cover for the graphic photos and sexual content. It is not the type of class where you can use “one size fits all” materials since it is a personal matter that many parents certainly would not agree with. Children should be protected from too much info, and being taught in a way parents are either unaware of or don’t agree with. The emphasis in the limited data brought forth in this bill seems to be how to teach children “how to do it and how not to get caught”, rather than teaching them anything about morality and learning to say “no”. This feels like sexual indoctrination, and can result in normalizing inappropriate sexual behavior at an early age.

We need to protect the children who would certainly not benefit from HF 358, its unacceptable photos and content, and reject CSE HF 358.

Mary Blair
Resident, Rosemount