

My name is Ashley Sailer and I am providing testimony in opposition of SB 2260. I am an educator in this state. I primarily teach Family and Consumer Sciences in a small rural school. I have many oppositions to all parts of this bill as both a teacher and a parent, but I am going to focus on the aspects that affect my career. Educators in this state provide an incredible education to the students that attend our schools. SB 2260 is a threat to this education.

Section 2 Lines 16-26 create unrealistic expectations and burdens on educators. In the first part it states that all syllabus, curriculum and teacher training material must be submitted at least 7 days before the start of each class or course. In its current form this mean everything a teacher plans to use within the class needs to be decided in August. This is unrealistic. It will prevent teachers from being innovators. It will be preventing educators from teaching in the moment and adjusting their curriculum to meet student needs. Educators do not own crystal balls and cannot predict how their year will run. A bill like this will prevent teachers from accessing current events and relevant curriculum. Within my own classroom, I use many current event topics to help students relate to the standards and curriculum. Beyond my own walls I wonder how a social studies teacher can teach government without talking about current events. Science teachers would no longer be able to bring in current information. It is hard to predict a recent natural disaster which would make it impossible for a science teacher to provide accurate curriculum and websites prior to an event occurring. I also wonder how we are supposed to know all our students needs before we have ever met them. If I have very low or gifted students in my room it is my job to differentiate my curriculum for them, but I won't always know this is needed prior to a school year starting. So let's say I have a very low student who needs help in financial literacy. According to this bill, I can't go and find curriculum to teach them because it wasn't posted 7 days prior to the start of the course.

This bill also requires teachers to identify any person providing instruction along with guest lectures, field trips, assemblies and any other educational activity. Again this completely restricts teacher's ability to do their jobs. Within the last month I had a guest lecture come into my Cultures and Cuisine class to teach us about Brazil, which is where she is from. I didn't know this was a possibility till late fall when she approached me about coming in. If this bill were to pass my students would no long have had that experience. I also wonder how this relates to substitute teachers. The bill does not preclude them from it. They are providing in-person instruction so if a teacher does not provide a set list of subs in their syllabus are they now breaking a law. We are in a world with very few subs as is and I can't fathom what this might do to school districts.

This bill is rife with issues that are only going to hurt education in this state. It is going to hurt our students and will potentially lead to an exodus of teachers who will struggle with the extra burden of work that comes with this bill. Educators already are short on prep or planning time and this will just cause that to shrink even further.

For these reasons and many more I urge a Do Not Pass recommendation on SB 2260.