

Dear Chairman and Committee members,

My name is Margo Knorr. I am fully in support of Senate Bill 2356.

During Covid, we as parents watched many grown adults behave in bizarre ways toward children and each other. Some adults were convinced of things untrue, and they worked very hard spinning their wheels attempting to control the spread of an airborne pathogen. They could no more claim they were controlling covid with their tactics than a chain link fence can claim to keep out flies.

These individuals who were operating off media stimulation, skewed data, and fear, were few, but painfully evident everywhere and often placed themselves in positions of authority. They even went so far as to attempt to prevent or restrict parents from being with their minor children at activities.

Hind sight: The targeted covid messaging and media blitz of fear, effectively damaged the mental health of even some of the most stable and educated minds. The fearful predictions of doom on TV every night, turned these once revered leaders into mentally unstable figures participating and promoting damaging behaviors towards children. If there was ever a need for parents or legal guardians to be present and in the room, it was during this time.

Some adults in leadership even went so far as to employ coercive testing strategies in their schools. They were using other people's children for the CDCs medical research and were being financially rewarded for this unethical behavior by our health department. Our state was allotted 22 million dollars for this use of our school children.

Adults we used to trust were participating in this and other unethical disease mitigation strategies that have since been proven harmful to children. I give you this background to remind you of just how ugly that time was.

A law like 2356 would have served to protect children. A parent accompanying their child and being present in the midst of activities, will often put the brakes on unacceptable behaviors towards children. I wish this was not a necessary law but this restriction of parental rights and responsibilities was enacted by both the NDHSAA (a quasi- government association built by tax payer dollars) and by certain school districts.

I went to a basketball game during this time. My daughter was playing. The school hosting, was not allowing parents entry unless they had a blue ticket. I had paid the entry fee, but I had no blue ticket. Each child playing was given 2 tickets earlier in a profoundly imbecilic effort to control disease spread. I had to get into the game to even get my blue ticket from my daughter. The lady collecting tickets would not let me.

A law in place like SB 2356 would have ensured my parental rights to accompany my minor child at her activities. It would have been a welcome reprieve from adults who were determined to do impossible things at the expense of children. And it would have deterred the irrational behaviors of adults who needed to be held accountable to a law that enforced a parents rights and responsibilities.

Thankyou for your time and consideration of my testimony. I urge you to give this bill a do pass.