Senate Judiciary Committee Jan 29th, 2025 SB 2244 Testimony in Opposition

Dear Chair Larson and the members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I urge a "Do Not Pass" on SB 2244, because:

- 1. Parents already enjoy <u>fundamental parental rights</u>
- 2. This bill destabilizes our public institutes ability to operate, especially in regard to child protection, regardless of the supposed exceptions written within this bill.
- 3. These additional parental rights could conflict with youth's <u>unalienable right</u> to enjoy life and liberty or pursue and obtain safety and happiness.
- 4. State data already reflects bad parents do exist in our state.

In 2023, an especially powerful testimony around virtually the same bill struck my eye:

Samantha Field's from the Coalition for Responsible Home Education spoke this session about not being given a basic education or progressing past the eighth grade reading level because of her parents and the fundamental rights of youth were virtually meaningless. Child Protective Services spoke about the careful balance of their jobs and how bills like this put youth into jeopardy. Our schools have talked about the authority this gives parents as making school virtually impossible, with each teacher now needing to respond to sixty new bosses in each classroom.

During 2023's bill, <u>SB 2260</u>, hundreds of testimony against this bill came from our organizations that protect kids. I'm not sure what this version of the bill is fixing or why we need to try it again. To save everyone hours of time, please vote "Do Not Pass."

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to our state. Fave Seidler - faveseidler@gmail.com