Brittany Young South Thomaston LD 919

LD 919

I support LD 660 "An Act to Provide Transparency and Public Access to Public School Curricula and LD 919 "An Act to Require Parental Permission for Certain Surveys and Questionnaires Administered to Minors in Schools."

LD 660: This bill will among other things, place restrictions on the choice of academic class offerings and curriculum materials and on-site professional development programs.

LD 919: This bill prohibits a school from making a student who is a minor, complete a survey or questionnaire that asks or identifies the student's full name without affirmative written permission from the student's parent.

In the name of full transparency, each school's curriculum and professional development programs MUST be accessible to all citizens, particularly parents. Otherwise, what are they trying to hide from us? Additionally, minors have no business completing said surveys without parental permission.

I'd also like to add surveys that are anonymously submitted shall also be first approved by parents, such as the recent surveys that were sent out regarding students gender and sexual identities. Many students, middle schoolers in particular, were uncomfortable taking these surveys but were told by teachers if their parents didn't sign an "opt-out form" then they HAD to complete the surveys. Full transparency is required for parents to trust that schools and faculty have their child's best interest and parents should be included on determining if their child is fit to complete data-mining surveys inquiring about students sexual and gender identities.

I support LD 660 and LD 919 and they "ought to pass."