

RESOLUTION OPPOSING HB19-1032

WHEREAS HB19-1032, entitled “CONCERNING COMPREHENSIVE HUMAN SEXUALITY EDUCATION” is being considered by the Colorado General Assembly for adoption into state law; and,

WHEREAS the statewide imposition of curriculum mandates for any subject, not just the non-academic mandates of HB19-1032, violates the fundamental principles that underlie the creation and existence of local school districts, and charter schools:

- That parents are far better positioned to direct the education of their children than centralized authority.
- That local control of education is far more effective at delivering content to students than is centralized control.
- That it is the exclusive right and responsibility of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children; and,

WHEREAS HB19-1032 mandates that all human sexuality instruction taught by public schools must meet new, mandatory, prescribed “comprehensive human sexuality education content requirements which include instruction on:

- All federally-approved methods of contraception, while expressly forbidding teaching abstinence as the primary method of birth control.
- Abortion (if ‘pregnancy outcome options’ are taught).
- Gender ‘expression, sexual orientation,’ and ‘teach[ing] youth about different relationship models they and their peers may engage in, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender peers;” and,

WHEREAS the Liberty Common School Policy Manual states in section 7.4 that “Parents own the fundamental responsibility for their children’s education, which includes the areas of morality and sexuality;” and,

WHEREAS the Liberty Common School Board of Directors recognizes that non-academic topics included in HB19-1032 are perfectly valid for parents to discuss with their children in a time and manner they deem appropriate, but are outside the scope of an academically oriented school, and/or a classically oriented school; and,

WHEREAS HB19-1032 proposes a state-imposed, non-academic, curricular mandate forcing instruction of anti-intellectual content; and,

WHEREAS state-mandated, statutorily structured instructional standards in any subject are the antitheses of instructional diversity, innovation, and site-based instructional control; and,

WHEREAS The Colorado Charter Schools Act (Art 30.5 of Title 22) acknowledges that “Different pupils learn differently and public school programs should be designed to fit the needs of

individual pupils and that there are educators, citizens, and parents in Colorado who are willing and able to offer innovative programs, educational techniques, and environments but who lack a channel through which they can direct their innovative efforts;" and,

WHEREAS the Colorado General Assembly created the Colorado Charter Schools Act for the following stated purposes:

- To encourage diverse approaches to learning and education and the use of different, innovative, research-based, or proven teaching methods;
- To provide parents and pupils with expanded choices in the types of education opportunities that are available within the public school system.
- To create a legitimate avenue for parents, teachers, and community members to implement new and innovative methods of educating children that are proven to be effective and to take responsible risks and create new and innovative, research-based ways of educating all children within the public education system.
- To advance a renewed commitment by the state of Colorado to the mission, goals, and diversity of public education; and,

WHEREAS HB19-1032 explicitly precludes waivers from any mandates in HB19-1032 for any school district or charter-public school, meaning that Liberty Common School would be required to teach these mandatory, non-academic, anti-intellectual topics; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Liberty Common School Board of Directors formally supports an amendment to HB19-1032 allowing an automatic charter-school waiver. Absent the inclusion of an automatic charter-school waiver, the Board opposes the legislation, and encourages the parent community of Liberty Common School to make all efforts to voice its opposition to state lawmakers, and to the Governor of Colorado, regarding this legislation.