

Alaska Association of Student Governments Resolution #6

AASG Supporting Student Rights
Submitted by: Kylie Orlando (Sitka High School Student Council)
April 19, 2024

Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that: AASG will support student rights by showing opposition to the implementation of house bill 382, due to its unethical and discriminatory nature

- 1. Whereas, Sitka High brought a resolution to the 2023 Spring Conference, addressing this same issue (HB 105). While that bill did not pass, more bills of a similar nature keep coming up. Sitka High School Student Council believes that we need to work as a collective state to stop legislators from attempting to strip students of their rights;
- **2.** Whereas, HB 382, akin to HB 105, threatens to harm transgender youth, potentially exposing them to discrimination and erasure; ¹⁵
- **3.** Whereas, HB 382 is "An Act relating to education; relating to the rights of the parents of public school students; relating to the rights of public school teachers; relating to the records of public school students; and providing for an effective date;" 14
- **4. Whereas,** The bill imposes obligations on schools to inform parents about changes related to a child's gender identity, including alterations to gender markers, pronouns, preferred names, and accommodations, potentially jeopardizing the privacy and safety of transgender students;¹⁵
- **5.** Whereas, HB 382 threatens the constitutional right to privacy of students by mandating disclosure of sensitive information to parents and enforcing restrictive policies on restroom and locker room usage based on biological sex, potentially creating unsafe environments for gender-diverse students;¹⁵
- **6.** Whereas, students constitutional right to privacy would be taken away from them;
- 7. Whereas, All youth deserve to feel safe at school with adults they trust;
- **8.** Whereas, educators must choose between forcibly outing a student's gender identity/ sexuality to their parents or facing legal consequences;³

- **9.** Whereas, Sitka High Student Council believes that requiring teachers to forcibly out students to their parents regarding matters of pronoun use and gender identity could lead to disastrous consequences, as transgender youth have significantly higher chances of family rejection and suicide;
- **10. Whereas,** House Bill 382 requires parental permission for any educational content involving gender identity, human reproduction, or sexual matters, potentially impacting programs like Bree's Law, which educates on sexual abuse and teen dating violence prevention; ¹
- 11. Whereas, Bree's Law has proven effective in reducing teen dating violence, but HB 382's requirements may obstruct access to such vital education if parents opt out, posing a potential barrier to life-saving information; ¹
- 12. Whereas, if this bill passes it will be enacted immediately after being signed; ¹⁴
- **13. Whereas,** Governor Dunleavy announced Carpenter's House Bill 382, which, on the surface, is "intended to expand parental rights in education. But what it does is strip schools of their ability to educate, affirm, and protect transgender and gender non-conforming youth who cannot safely share their identity with their families;"
- **14. Whereas,** Sitka High School Student Council believes that we must support student rights and safety;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments does not support HB 382

Action Statement: If passed by the General Assembly of AASG, this resolution will be brought before the House Education Committee and the Senate Education Committee for their consideration.

Sources

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- 2. Alaska State Legislature. https://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Text/33?Hsid=HB0105A. Accessed 25 Apr. 2023.
- 3. News, KCAW. "Commentary: HB 105 Puts Alaska's LGBTQ+ Youth at Risk. We Must Fight It at Every Step." KCAW, 27 Mar. 2023, https://www.kcaw.org/2023/03/27/commentary-hb-105-puts-alaskas-lgbtq-youth-at-risk-we-must-fight-it-at-every-step/.
- **4.** *Home*. (n.d.). https://www.murkowski.senate.gov/
- 5. Which U.S. States Have the Highest Rates of Child Abuse Cases?

 https://nyrequirements.com/blog/which_us_states_have_the_highest_rates_of_child_abuse_cases. Accessed 25 Apr. 2023.
- **6.** Austin, Ashley, et al. "Suicidality Among Transgender Youth: Elucidating the Role of Interpersonal Risk Factors." Journal of Interpersonal Violence, vol. 37, no. 5–6, Mar. 2022, pp. NP2696–718. PubMed, https://doi.org/10.1177/0886260520915554.

- 7. Alaska Suicide Facts & Statistics. https://health.alaska.gov/SuicidePrevention/Pages/statistics.aspx. Accessed 26 Apr. 2023.
- **8.** *Home CMHA Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge.* (2018, September 24). CMHA Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge. https://cmhahkpr.ca/
- 9. Greey, Ali Durham. "It's Just Safer When I Don't Go There': Trans People's Locker Room Membership and Participation in Physical Activity." Journal of Homosexuality, vol. 0, no. 0, Feb. 2022, pp. 1–23. Taylor and Francis+NEJM, https://doi.org/10.1080/00918369.2022.2038968.
- 10. "Transgender Teens With Restricted Bathroom Access at Higher Risk of Sexual Assault." News, 7 May 2019, www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/hsph-in-the-news/transgender-teens-restricted-bathroom-acc ess-sexual-assault.
- **11.** https://publications.aap.org/pediatrics/article/143/6/e20182902/76816/School-Restroom-a nd-Locker-Room-Restrictions-and?autologincheck=redirected. Accessed 27 Apr. 2023.
- 12. Alaska Association of Student Government. https://aasg.org/. Accessed 18 Apr. 2024.
- 13. "Home." Identity Inc, https://www.identityalaska.org. Accessed 18 Apr. 2024.
- **14.** Alaska State Legislature. https://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/33?Root=HB382. Accessed 18 Apr. 2024.
- **15.** Oppose HB 382: Forced Outing of LGBTQ+ Youth. https://www.weareplannedparenthoodaction.org/a/oppose-hb382forcedouting. Accessed 18 Apr. 2024.

The resolution passes with noted opposition

Passed by the Spring 2024 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Barrow High School

AASG Vice President, Danika Hamm

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre