



**Alaska Association of Student Governments**

**Resolution #4**

**AASG Against House Bill 105**

**Submitted by: Kylie Orlando and Francis Myers**

**[4/27/2023]**

**Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that** members of AASG should be opposed to the implementation of House Bill 105, due to its unethical and discriminatory nature.

1. **Whereas**, House Bill 105 states, “The policies must include procedures requiring written permission from a parent before the name or pronoun used by a public school to address or refer to that parent’s child in person, on school identification, or in school records is changed.”;<sup>2</sup>
2. **Whereas**, educators must choose between forcibly outing a student’s gender identity/sexuality to their parents or facing legal consequences;<sup>3</sup>
3. **Whereas**, transgender people, when compared to cisgender people, report significantly higher family rejection, lower social support, higher loneliness, higher depression, lower protective factors, and higher negative risk factors, related to suicidal behavior, and are less certain in avoiding sexual risk behaviors;<sup>8</sup>
4. **Whereas**, in the United States, Alaska ranks number two in child abuse cases;<sup>5</sup>
5. **Whereas**, Alaska has one of the highest rates of suicide per capita in the country;<sup>7</sup>
6. **Whereas**, suicide is the leading cause of death for youth and young adults age 15 to 24 in Alaska;<sup>7</sup>
7. **Whereas**, 82% of transgender individuals have considered killing themselves and 40% have attempted suicide, with suicidality highest among transgender youth compared to all other groups;<sup>6</sup>
8. **Whereas**, a parent has complete access to a student’s records unless, “a reasonably prudent person would believe that disclosure of the information would result in child abuse or neglect.”;<sup>2</sup>
9. **Whereas**, there is not a definite way for teachers, or anyone else, to know whether

- the information in a student's record could potentially lead to harm;
10. **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;
  11. **Whereas**, House Bill 105 states, "The program ... includes written procedures to address the physical safety and privacy of students in locker rooms and restrooms through the separation of students by biological sex, access to single occupant facilities, or other safety and privacy protocols," disregarding the students' gender identity;<sup>2</sup>
  12. **Whereas**, House Bills 105 defines "gender identity" as an internal sense of being male, female, or something else, which may or may not correspond to an individual's sex assigned birth or sex characteristics;<sup>2</sup>
  13. **Whereas**, transgender and gender-nonbinary teens face greater risk of sexual assault in schools that prevent them from using bathrooms or locker rooms consistent with their gender identity;<sup>10</sup>
  14. **Whereas**, a recent study found that 36% of transgender or non-binary students reported being sexually harassed in locker rooms not consistent with their gender identity;<sup>10</sup>
  15. **Whereas**, transgender and gender nonbinary adolescents experience high rates of peer victimization;<sup>11</sup>
  16. **Whereas**, because of iterative encounters of surveillance, scrutiny, harassment, and violence—trans people regularly adopt strategies for navigating locker rooms as nonmembers of that specified biological sex;<sup>9</sup>
  17. **Whereas**, House Bill 105 proposes that parents must be given two weeks' notice and they must provide written permission before, "any activity, class, or program that includes content involving gender identity, human reproduction, or sexual matter is provided to a child."<sup>2</sup>
  18. **Whereas**, Bree's Law states that dating violence education must be taught in grades 7-12 in all Alaskan public schools. It instructs teens how to develop healthy relationships, practice supportive communication skills, recognize the warning signs of an abusive relationship, and where to go for help;<sup>1</sup>
  19. **Whereas** Bree's Law includes education on sexual abuse, and therefore could fall under "any sexual matter" proposed by House Bill 105, making it required for parents to give permission in order for their kids to attend these talks;
  20. **Whereas**, House Bill 105 and Bree's Law are in direct contradiction to one another;
  21. **Whereas**, half of all women in Alaska (50%) have experienced physical violence, threats of it, or sexual violence from a partner at some point in their lives;<sup>1</sup>
  22. **Whereas**, because of Bree's law, within 3 years of Bree's murder, teen dating violence was significantly reduced nearly in half;<sup>4</sup>
  23. **Whereas**, Bree's Law education significantly reduces teen violence and sexual

misconduct, and House Bill 105 makes it so parents must provide written permission before a class can talk about any sexual matters, then House Bill 105 could potentially get in the way of life saving information if a parent decides their kid can't participate in these talks;

**24. Whereas**, if this bill passes it will be enacted July 1, 2023, before next school year;<sup>2</sup>

**25. Whereas**, “Governor Dunleavy recently announced House Bill 105, which, on the surface, is intended to expand parental rights in education. But what it actually does is strip schools of their ability to educate, affirm, and protect trans and gender non-conforming youth who cannot safely share their identity with their families.” (Margot O’Connell and Michael Mausbach);<sup>3</sup>

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments** does not support House Bill 105 and its implementation.

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

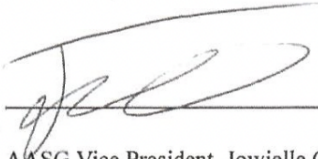
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**Passed by the Spring 2023 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Skagway High School**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jowielle Corpuz', written over a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Jowielle Corpuz

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Navarre', written over a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre