From:
 Deborah Bremer

 To:
 House Education

 Subject:
 Fw: House Bill No. 2700

Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 3:43:24 PM

From: Green, Stacey <sgreen@usd271.com> Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 10:33 AM

To: Deborah Bremer

Subject: House Bill No. 2700

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House Committee on Education Members:

It is my honor to share the voice of our exemplary Library and Information Literacy Specialist in regards to HB 700.

If you have any questions or would like further assistance from her, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time on this matter. Stacey Green

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As an educator with 40 years of experience, 24 of those as a certified library media specialist in two Kansas school districts, House Bill No. 2700 terrifies me. The development of a rating system for school library materials would be a complete and total disaster. As a seasoned veteran in a school library, the thought of rating materials makes no sense. In a time when many school districts are misguidedly choosing to replace certified library media specialists with library aides, I can't imagine what the rating process would be like for them.

Legislators believing members of a task force can do a better job than certified educators through the implementation of a school library materials rating system is ludicrous. Certified teacher librarians know their students and their communities. A rating system assumes this task force can determine what is appropriate or inappropriate for others. Implementation of this system also assumes individuals want or need direction in making decisions about the materials or resources they use.

If this is the direction Kansas legislators choose to go, I am glad I have the option of retirement. This rating system should never even be given consideration for Kansas School Districts. It certainly highlights how out-of-touch some of our legislators are.

Thank you.

Terri Bennett USD #271 Library Media Specialist Stockton, KS 67669

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