

The Honorable Connie Leyva  
Chair, Senate Committee on Education  
California State Capitol Room 2083  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 673- SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Leyva:

I am writing to express my support for SB 673 (Morrell), which would make TK-6<sup>th</sup> grade curricula more transparent and accessible for parents.

Current law does not require school districts to post adopted sexual health and HIV prevention education curricula for elementary-age children on their websites. It has proven difficult to get some school districts to provide these materials to parents in a timely manner and in an easily accessible format. This inhibits parent's ability to be informed and actively involved in the instruction of their children. Simply, parents should have the ability to make an informed decision when considering the participation of their children in these lessons.

Furthermore, the California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA) eliminated the discretion of school districts to implement an active consent ("opt-in") process for parents, replacing it with a mandatory passive consent ("opt-out") process for all grade levels. This has compounded the problem of curriculum availability, as children are automatically enrolled in sexual health and HIV prevention education before parents have the ability to review the materials, which in many cases proves very difficult. The decision to offer this education to levels TK-6<sup>th</sup> grade remains with locally elected school board members, and therefore, it makes sense that the consent standard should as well.

Finally, the CHYA also does not require that sexual health and HIV prevention education for elementary school children is age-appropriate and medically accurate. However, this is required for similar subject matter taught in 7-12<sup>th</sup> grades. It is important that both TK-6<sup>th</sup> grade and 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade curricula are brought into conformity on this issue.

SB 673 proposes simple and straightforward solutions to these problems, and would empower me to make informed decisions regarding my child's development and instruction.

I would greatly appreciate your leadership on this important issue, and I respectfully request that you support the passage of SB 673.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Personal written signature)      \_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed name)      \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Residence Address – Not P.O. Box)      \_\_\_\_\_  
(City)      \_\_\_\_\_, California  
(Zip Code)