

March 23, 2023

National PTA Urges NO Vote on H.R. 5

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Parent Teacher Association (National PTA) and our network of millions of parents and educators across the country, and for the sake of the health and well-being of our nation's children and families, **we urge you to VOTE NO or PRESENT on H.R. 5, the Parents Bill of Rights.**

H.R. 5 as currently written and now amended has the potential to cause significant harm to children & families. If passed, this legislation could:

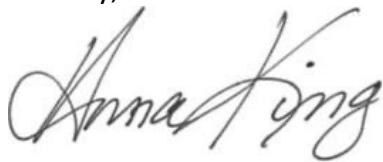
- Prevent mental health support for students in need;
- Limit access to learning-enhancing technology & educational materials;
- Lead to inappropriate and harmful book bans & curriculum censorship;
- Create confusion for school staff & burdensome opt-in requirements for families;
- Impair relationships between educators & parents; and
- Undermine efforts to create safe, welcoming, supportive, and inclusive learning environments for all students and families.

As the nation's oldest and largest child advocacy association, we know what meaningful family engagement looks like and what parents want from their policymakers. We stand behind our National Standards for Family-School Partnerships that have been in place for over 20 years. PTA leaders have been doing this work in their communities for over 125 years, and we are eager and ready to work with you on ensuring supports and services are in place for true family-school partnerships that do not cause unintended harm to children and families.

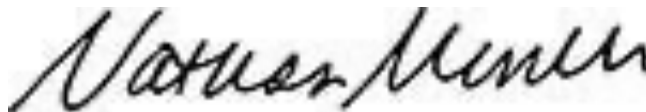
PTA was disappointed that the Bonamici Substitute Amendment has failed, which we believed was the only path forward for this legislation to truly support meaningful and inclusive family engagement. We are grateful to those who supported the Substitute, as well as those who continue to advocate to strengthen family-school partnerships through their co-sponsorship of H. Res. 219, the Bill of Rights for Students and Parents, and their ongoing support for the Statewide Family Engagement Centers Program. We look forward to working with your office to continue to uplift the parent voice and the critical work of our PTA leaders, our Center for Family Engagement, and our National Standards for Family-School Partnerships.

For these reasons, our members ask you to VOTE NO or PRESENT on H.R. 5, the Parents Bill of Rights. We thank you for consideration of this request and if you have any questions, please reach out to our Director of Government Affairs, Kate Clabaugh, at kclabaugh@pta.org.

Sincerely,



Anna King
President
National PTA



Nathan R. Monell, CAE
Executive Director
National PTA