

VOTE YES ON HB 2675

Abstinence-Based, Medically Accurate, Age-Appropriate, Complete Sexual Health Information

House Sponsors: Lilly-Gabel-Nekritz-Soto-Nekritz-Jakobsson-Feigenholtz-Fine-Evans-Sims-Soto-Welch-Cassidy-C. Mitchell-Mell-Currie

What HB 2675 Does

- **Creates a standard for existing sexual health education courses taught in grades 6-12.**
- **Provides medically accurate, age-appropriate, complete information on reducing STDs, STIs, and unintended pregnancies: *including information on abstinence, contraception, healthy relationships and boundary setting.***
- **Ensures Local Control: *Allows local school districts to choose curricula.***
- **Allows for parental opt out: *Parents can remove their children from sexual health education courses for any reason.***

Why We Need HB 2675

Throughout the state, youth, including youth in grades 6-12, face STDs, STIs and unintended pregnancies. Providing complete, medically accurate, age-appropriate health information will likely result in decreased STD, STI, and unintended pregnancy rates for Illinois youth.

Unintended Pregnancies: Illinois has the **25th** highest pregnancy rate in the U.S. among teenagers (ages 15-19 years).

STDs and STIs: Illinois has seen an increase of sexually transmitted diseases, particularly among youth. The high rates of STDs and STIs are not unique to just one county - it is a statewide problem.

What HB 2675 Does Not Do

- HB 2675 **IS NOT** a mandate and does not require schools to teach sexual health education: *IF* a public school chooses to teach sex education, *THEN* the program must be medically accurate, developmentally and age appropriate and complete.
- HB 2675 **DOES NOT** penalize a student if her/his parent chooses to opt the student out of any or all sexual health education courses.
- HB 2675 **DOES NOT** apply to private or religious schools.

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Organizations Supportive of HB 2675

ACLU of Illinois
AIDS Foundation of Chicago
American Academy of Pediatrics, Illinois Chapter
American Association of University Women
Chicago Abortion Fund
Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus
Chicago Department of Public Health
Chicago Foundation for Women
Chicago Women's Health Center
Cook County Department of Public Health
DuPage County NOW
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
Illinois Association of School Social Workers
Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health
Illinois Choice Action Team
Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Illinois Maternal and Child Health Coalition
Illinois National Organization for Women
Illinois Public Health Association
Illinois Safe Schools Alliance
Illinois State Medical Society
Lake County Health Department/Community Health Center
League of Women Voters of Illinois
Lee County Public Health Department
Lutheran Advocacy - Illinois
McHenry County Citizens for Choice
Midwest Access Project
Mujeres Latinas en Acción
National Coalition of American Nuns
National Council of Jewish Women Illinois State Policy Advocacy Committee
Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium
Ounce of Prevention Fund
Personal PAC
Planned Parenthood of Illinois
Protestants for the Common Good
Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
The Women's Health Foundation