

February 14, 2022, Issue 6

Happy Valentine's Day - Education

Education

SB449, aka the Parents' Bill of Rights, would protect the right of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their minor children. This is a priority of the Governor's that prohibits "undue infringement" by state or local government or the local board of education. This could obviate the need for laws governing what can be taught and how, what books can be in school libraries, and how schools handle student discipline. Two other bills, **HB1178** and **HB1158**, are different versions of the same thing.

HB1153 would require local school systems to reach out to communities for whom English is a second language (ESOL), to provide standards for foreign language interpreters in schools, and to require notification that interpretation is available.

HB999 establishes state-funded scholarships of $6,000 for students who would prefer to attend private school. The money can also be used for certified tutors and those switching to home schooling.

HB1, the Forum Act, has been knocking around since 2020. It would prohibit the creation of "free-speech zones" at public colleges and universities. The bill has never made it to crossover day.