



IWV Supports The Empower Parents To Protect Their Kids Act

September 9, 2022

Dear Senators,

Independent Women's Voice, which fights to enhance people's freedom, opportunities, and well-being, supports the **Empower Parents to Protect Their Kids Act**, introduced by Senator Tom Cotton.

Students in schools across the country have been encouraged by school staff to question their gender identity and "transition" to a new one, often without parental knowledge and, at times, explicitly against parental consent. And beyond facilitating these "transitions," school staff have actively hidden students' new identities from their parents.

This bill would prevent K-12 schools from facilitating student "gender transitions" without parental knowledge. It would also empower parents to sue schools that violate this act and hide or withhold "transition" information from parents.

"My bill will protect students and ensure that parents are in control of their children's education," **said** Senator Cotton. "Schools must remain institutions of education, not indoctrination camps where minors are manipulated and brainwashed."

So many children have fallen behind in their education, particularly after the COVID-19 closures and the failure of remote learning. Instead of pushing gender ideology on young children, behind their parents' backs, schools should be focused on imparting the knowledge that students need to live as functioning and informed adults in the future.

We thank Senator Cotton for his leadership on this important issue. IWV applauds this bill and urges all senators to work towards its swift passage.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Gentles".

Virginia Gentles

Director

Education Freedom Center