Resolution Opposing Initiative IL26-001

Whereas the current federal administration continues an assault on education and the rights of individuals belonging to marginalized identities;

Whereas Initiative IL26-001 acts as a continuation of these dangerous tactics within our state through the restriction of education, particularly by allowing parents to "opt their child out of assignments, activities and other student engagements" [1] that regard content about sexual identity, mental health, and challenge "the child's family beliefs, morality, religion, or political affiliations"[2];

Whereas this emphasis on parental discretion in education often leads to the suppression of educational material as detailed in the American Library Association's report on the censorship of books and materials in the US, wherein they found that "[o]f the [4,235] unique titles challenged in 2025, 1,671 (39%) represent the lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ people and people of color"[3] ;

Whereas ASWWU supports a child in the public-school system's right to a full, quality education not subject to censorship;

Whereas the initiative also concerns advancing the ability of parents to gain access to "[r]ecords of any mental health counseling"[4] ;

Whereas 68% of transgender youth report baseline anxiety symptoms[5], as well as "disproportionately report[ing] higher suicide attempts compared with cisgender adolescents"[6], exhibiting their particular need for mental health counseling;

Whereas LGBTQ+ youth are also particularly vulnerable to potentially dangerous situations like being "outed" – i.e. being forced to disclose their identity status or having their identity status be disclosed without consent – to their parents;

Whereas the potential of outing of LGBTQ+ youth is exacerbated by the initiative's inclusion of the deeply harmful and inappropriate unconstraint for parents to demand access to information regarding their child's relationships and sexual identity in school[7];

Whereas ASWWU supports standing in a firm position against initiatives that contribute to the erosion of protections for children,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved **that the Associated Students of Western Washington University:**

1. Adopts this resolution to express its official opposition to Initiative IL26-001.
2. Urges Western Washington University students to vote NO on Initiative IL26-001.

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[1] Natalie Fahmy, KOMO News Reporter. "Voters to Decide on 'parents' Bill of Rights,' Future of Access to Children's School Info." KOMO, October 19, 2026.

[2] Washington. 2026. "Initiative IL26-001". Washington Legislature.
[3] American Library Association. 2024. "Book Ban Data." Www.Ala.Org. American Library Association. March 20, 2024.
[4] *See* 2
[5] Nath, Ronita, Derrick Matthews, Steven Hobaica, Tiffany Eden, Jonah DeChants, Antonia Clifford, Ashley Taylor, and Kasey Suffredini. 2025. "Project SPARK Interim Report: A Longitudinal Study of Protective and Risk Factors in LGBTQ+ Youth Mental Health (2023-2025)," October.

[6] Toomey, Russell B, Amy K Syvertsen, and Maura Shramko. "Transgender Adolescent Suicide Behavior." Pediatrics, October 2018.

[7] *See* 2

Approved: ASWWU Senate: Motion #SEN-26-F-15, 10/28/26,
ASWWU Executive Board: Motion#ASB-26-F-14, 10/29/26