

<u>VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL (</u>Paul.Terry@leg.state.nh.us)

January 31, 2022

The Honorable Paul Terry New Hampshire House of Representatives 915 Stockbridge Corner Road Alton, NH 03809

RE: Support for H.B. 1431, The Parents' Bill of Rights

Dear Representative Terry,

On behalf of our thousands of supporters in New Hampshire, we write to you today in strong support of the bill that you and your colleagues introduced, H.B. 1431, The Parents' Bill of Rights.

This critical bill will enshrine into New Hampshire's state law that parental rights are fundamental, as the U.S. Supreme Court has long recognized in the leading cases protecting parental rights as a fundamental right. *See, e.g., Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923), *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925), *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972), and *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57 (2000). New Hampshire's Supreme Court has agreed, stating in multiple cases that "[p]arental rights are 'natural, essential, and inherent' within the meaning of Part I, Article 2 of the New Hampshire Constitution." *See, e.g., In re Guardianship of Nicholas P.*, 27 A.3d 653, 657 (N.H. 2011); *In re Adam R.*, 992 A.2d 697, 700 (N.H. 2010); *In re Antonio W.*, 790 A.2d 125, 128 (N.H. 2002). H.B. 1431 will enshrine this judicial protection of parental rights into New Hampshire's state code, further protecting parental rights.

Additionally, H.B. 1431 will provide parents of children in public schools in New Hampshire with concrete rights concerning the education, privacy, and safety of their children. H.B. 1431 will put into New Hampshire law some of the strongest protections for parents and children in the nation.

ParentalRights.org is proud to support this critical and timely piece of legislation. At a time when it seems that government is encroaching more and more on loving parents and their ability to care for, educate, and raise their children, H.B. 1431 provides strong

legal protections to New Hampshire parents so that parents – not bureaucrats – are the ones legally protected to make the important decisions necessary to protect, raise, and educate their children, so that their children can grow and thrive.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached via phone at 540-751-1200, or via email at will@parentalrights.org.

Very truly yours,

William A. Estrada, Esq.*

President

Parental Rights.org

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