

Why we need the Parental Rights Amendment

For almost 100 years, the U.S. Supreme Court has recognized the traditional role of parents in directing the care, custody, and control of their minor children. In *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, the Court declared that **parental rights have been “established beyond debate as an enduring American tradition.”** 406 US 205, 232 (1972)

Despite this, many government actors and agencies today are working overtime to substitute a parent’s decisions with the government worker’s own view of what is best for a given child. From schools to hospitals to child welfare investigators, **“experts” think they know what’s best for your child better than you do.**

And while this has been going on for decades, we have all become painfully aware of it since the recent pandemic, when many learned for the first time just how much power the government wants to have over our children.

Yet, every child is unique; no one knows or loves a child better than his or her own parents. **Mom or Dad, you are the expert on your child.**

The Parental Rights Amendment will protect the traditional role of parents as long recognized by the US Supreme Court, restoring the proper balance of parental authority against government decision-making. This fundamental right is so important that we cannot rely on just Supreme Court precedent. **Parental rights must be established beyond debate in the black and white of the text of the U.S. Constitution.** And that is exactly what the Parental Rights Amendment will accomplish.

By empowering parents—those who know and love their children best—the Amendment will protect children from misinformed, cookie-cutter bureaucracy.

Proposed Parental Rights Amendment

SECTION 1.

The liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their children is a fundamental right.

SECTION 2.

The parental right to direct education includes the right to choose, as an alternative to public education, private, religious, or home schools, and the right to make reasonable choices within public schools for one’s child.

SECTION 3.

Neither the United States nor any State shall infringe these rights without demonstrating that its governmental interest as applied to the person is of the highest order and not otherwise served.

SECTION 4.

The parental rights guaranteed by this article shall not be denied or abridged on account of disability.

SECTION 5.

This article shall not be construed to apply to a parental action or decision that would end life.

Sign On!

Members of Congress are urged to support parents and families by signing on to cosponsor HJRes. 99. To do so, contact **Bobby Bravo in the office of Rep. Debbie Lesko: Bobby.Bravo@mail.house.gov**



Protecting Children by Empowering Parents

parentalrights.org

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