

## OPPOSE HB787

House Sub- Committee on K-12 Education

Virginia General Assembly,

The Honorable , Chair and House Education Sub-Committee Members,

I am writing these comments to express my **opposition** to **HB787**. Within this Bill, there are many aspects that are of grave concern. The Virginia Department of Education along with other Stakeholders (including parents), has a robust curriculum that is Rigorous, Relevant and Relational to Real World applications. Governor Youngkin has vowed that in this Commonwealth, no one would teach, "Revisionist History". If this is the case, why are two members from the party of Abraham Lincoln, who wrote the "Emancipation Proclamation" (talking about it, might make me a criminal), seeking to promote "Revisionist History"? In my Music Classroom, I have had Patriotic programs wherein the students have sung a song about President Lincoln. The last verse of the song is: "Old Abe Lincoln freed our Nation from Slavery, many long years ago" (*We Sing Patriotic Songs*). Would that now become an illegal song? Moreover, does this mean that I would no longer be able to discuss Country Music, lap dulcimers (which I can play), "Earle Scruggs' style of playing the Banjo? I have taught Music for 36 years, and I have taught children from all over the world. Every teacher is a trained, skilled professional and would never willingly harm any child emotionally. I was, however, made to feel "**uncomfortable**" by my Trigonometry teacher in Albemarle High school, when I was told that I had to study "extra hard" and that I needed to put more time into my Trigonometry studies. I was grateful to that teacher for making me feel "**uncomfortable**". Thus, this Bill is so vague, and does not reflect out Virginia values of *Sic Semper Tyrannis*. Please do not amend the Code of Virginia for this Bill.

Sincerely,

*V. Denise Harrington*

V. Denise Harrington, 36 years; BS, MA, MS, ABD,

TESOL Endorsement

As of new Redistricting, I reside in Delegate Amanda Batten's

And Senator Tommy Norment's District.