

November 11, 2024

Chairman Gail Manning
House Primary and Secondary Education Committee

Opponent testimony for HB 445
(Submitted with Witness Information Form)

Chairman Manning and Committee Members:

I am a retired English teacher, a veteran of thirty years teaching in public high school classrooms. I embrace our county's tradition of separation of church and state and believe that passage of HB 445 would enmesh the two in our public education system and cause unnecessary disruption for students and staff. I attended public schools and attended Catechism after school for religious instruction in keeping with both separation of church and state and religious freedom. I see no reason to change that long-standing approach. Parents' rights to choose religious instruction for their children have not been diminished by current policy. I urge you to reject HB 445.

Respectfully,

Laurine T Crowther
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