

When I first read about the Success Sequence in SB 156, I was angry, As I read more, my anger increased, but my confusion also grew. This quote from Senator Cutrona was particularly confusing.

“We want local input, local control on top of this. So we want to include parents, we want to include the school boards, we want to include school districts and the education, the State Board of Education, you want that workforce. We want to make sure everybody is involved. Full discussion. Let’s figure out some curriculum and move forward as a state,” Cutrona said.

Introducing something that would be required to be part of the curriculum without explicitly spelling out the details and including an outline of what will be taught is putting the cart before the horse. You want kids to be taught a specific sequence that leads to success, in your opinion, but you don’t want to follow a logical sequence to get the curriculum established BEFORE submitting the bill? Also, how is this local control when you are mandating something to be taught that is based on one set of values? What type of teachers will be needed to teach this sequence? How many hours are required to teach the entire sequence?

There are a multitude of problems and concerns about the details of the Success Sequence, but the most important red flag is the idea that one set of values should be taught to children in public schools. You’ve heard of separation of church and state, right? Please don’t pass a bill that is so narrow-minded, has no concrete curriculum, and mandates something that doesn’t need to be mandated.