
May 31, 2022

To: The Honorable Stephen A Huffman

Regarding: Please Amend HB 81

Dear Chair Huffman and members of the Committee:

I am live in Cincinnati, Ohio and am a Guild Certified Feldenkrais Teacher®.

I am in support of HB 81 with the proposed amendment which adds an exemption for people who practice movement education, and meet/adhere to the training, competency, and ethical standards of their professional organization.

Without this amendment, HB 81 could affect my right to practice the Feldenkrais Method® of somatic education (movement education) in Ohio.

I have been certified by the Feldenkrais Guild® of North America (FGNA) since 2001. I use gentle touch to guide my students' attention to their habitual ways of moving. The touch serves to improved function by learning patterns for easier reaching, standing up, rolling, posture and walking. People see me because they need an approach that engages them in finding their own best practice for activities of daily living.

My profession is regulated by our own Board, the Feldenkrais Guild of North America, with a defined training program, practices of standards, and its own Ethics board. Should anyone attempt to practice the Feldenkrais Method without proper training/certification or violate ethical standards, the board would act.

I graduated from an accredited professional training program of 800 hours, and I've completed over 1000 hours of continuing education since that time. As a teacher, I am required to adhere to FGNA's Standards of Practice, Code of Professional Conduct and Grievance Protocol, and fulfill continuing competency requirements and renew certification annually. The Guild has developed and enforced internationally recognized accreditation and certification standards for the Feldenkrais Method since 1977.

I am in full support of any mechanism that can inhibit sexual slavery. This bill with the proposed amendment is easy to get behind.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,

Cynthia M. Allen

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