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An Open Letter to Educators, School Administrators, and All Those Focused on Fostering Safe, Inclusive, and Diverse Learning Environments for All

June 26, 2023

Educators, Administrators, & Friends,

You have my unwavering support for fostering a safe and inclusive environment that celebrates diversity and adheres to the state curriculum guidelines.

Teachers play a pivotal role in shaping the minds and hearts of our future generations. You are not only educators but also mentors and role models who have a profound impact on the lives of your students. It is crucial that we acknowledge and appreciate their tireless efforts in nurturing an inclusive learning environment where every student feels valued, respected, and safe.

California's rich diversity is one of our greatest strengths and our educational institutions must reflect this diversity by promoting inclusivity and considering perspectives from all walks of life. Our state curriculum guidelines provide a solid foundation for educators to ensure that students receive a well-rounded education that includes diverse perspectives, histories, cultures, and experiences. Through these curricula, teachers empower students to develop a deep understanding and appreciation for the world's many voices and perspectives.

In an ever-evolving dynamic society, it is paramount that our educational institutions foster an environment that respects and celebrates the unique identities and backgrounds of every student - especially our targeted LGBTQ+ young people.

I commend the dedicated teachers who tirelessly strive to create safe spaces where students can express their authentic selves, free from prejudice, bullying, and discrimination. Your commitment to cultivating an atmosphere of respect, acceptance, and understanding is instrumental in shaping a future where diversity is not only acknowledged but celebrated.

Please know that as your representative, I am dedicated to supporting your invaluable work and ensuring that our educational institutions receive the necessary support and resources to continue fostering an inclusive learning environment. My two children have benefited from educators who respect diversity, challenged their beliefs and biases, and promoted inclusivity. Thank you for your amazing work and know that I support you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C Blakespear".

Catherine Blakespear
Senator, 38th Senate District
California State Legislature