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CALIFORNIANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

April 5, 2022

SUBJECT: CFER POSITION LETTER In Support of AB 1785

Honorable Members of the Assembly Education Committee:

On behalf of Californians for Equal Rights Foundation, I am writing to express our strong support of AB 1785. AB 1785 (California Parents' Bill of Rights Act), if passed, would enhance a parent's fundamental right to participate in his/her child(ren)'s education decision-making and strengthen parents' participation in and access to their minor children's education matters, including homework, school attendance, discipline and controversial curricular contents.

AB 1785 affirms the rights of parents and legal guardians as primary stakeholders in their children's education. By spelling out limitations on local educational agencies regarding the adoption and implementation of new curricula and practices, the bill would create a prior consultation channel for parents to engage with schools and teachers. Schools are required to seek parents' affirmative consent before adopting any new classes or initiatives, thereby increasing the accountability of school officials and bureaucrats to parents and communities. On the other hand, AB 1785 would effectively disrupt the often-opaque process of political indoctrination, in which fringe ideologues collaborate with special interest groups to carry out ideological thought experiments on students without parental consent. If passed, this act would effectively help tilt the balance of power in public education back to decentralized stakeholders including parents, community members and taxpayers.

Californians for Equal Rights Foundation (CFER) is a non-partisan and non-profit organizations founded in the wake of California's resounding affirmation of its constitutional guarantee of equal treatment. CFER is dedicated to promoting & raising public awareness on our nation's fundamental principles of equality and merit. Therefore, we urge all Assembly Education Committee Members to VOTE YES on AB 1785 and urge the rest of the California Legislature to support parental rights in public education!

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Executive Director, Californians for Equal Rights