

I received an e-mail regarding HB 2099 and read the survey purported to be utilized in interviewing 6th graders. I am a grandfather of school age children/youth. Statistics gathered from such a survey could be informative if not useful - not sure how one would utilize the data other than recognize that our education system has failed in educating its students on social and ethical issues. The problem I would have with the questions is that they are being ask of 6th graders. Appropriate questions similar to these, should be asked by parents of their own children at that age but not surpassing the child's understanding of the issues. Such premature questioning would often generate unnecessary curiosity of items or situations about which they have no interest or understanding perhaps pushing them to sample the items under question.

The question one must answer in approving such surveys for 6th graders would be: "Am I comfortable with a total stranger asking my 6th grade child/grandchild these questions without my knowledge?" If one can honestly say they have no problem with such a survey, then therein lies the problem. Such a person really doesn't have the time or desire to educate their children to keep them safe and drug free and a respectable citizen.

I hope you will resist any pressure from lobbyists to pass such a bill and use your common sense of just what input at that age will have on many of the children subjected to that and similar surveys.

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