



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ([sherman.packard@leg.state.nh.us](mailto:sherman.packard@leg.state.nh.us))

March 4, 2023

The Honorable Sherman Packard  
New Hampshire House of Representatives  
70 Old Derry Road  
Londonderry, NH 03053-2218

RE: Support for H.B. 10, The Parents' Bill of Rights

Dear Representative Packard:

By way of introduction, our organization, the Parental Rights Foundation, and our parent organization, ParentalRights.org, have worked nationwide and in the fifty states for the last 16 years to protect children by empowering parents.

On behalf of our thousands of supporters in New Hampshire, we write to you today in strong support of the bill that you and your colleagues introduced, H.B. 10, The Parents' Bill of Rights.

This critical bill will enshrine into New Hampshire state law that parental rights are fundamental, as the U.S. Supreme Court has long recognized in the leading cases protecting parental rights as a fundamental right. *See, e.g., Meyer v. Nebraska*, 262 U.S. 390 (1923), *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, 268 U.S. 510 (1925), *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406 U.S. 205 (1972), and *Troxel v. Granville*, 530 U.S. 57 (2000).

New Hampshire's Supreme Court has agreed, stating in multiple cases that "[p]arental rights are 'natural, essential, and inherent' within the meaning of Part I, Article 2 of the New Hampshire Constitution." *See, e.g., In re Guardianship of Nicholas P.*, 27 A.3d 653, 657 (N.H. 2011); *In re Adam R.*, 992 A.2d 697, 700 (N.H. 2010); *In re Antonio W.*, 790 A.2d 125, 128 (N.H. 2002).

H.B. 10 will enshrine this judicial protection of parental rights into New Hampshire's state code, further protecting parental rights. The Legislature is charged with protecting the rights of the people, so this belongs in the New Hampshire State Code.

Additionally, H.B. 10 will provide parents of children in public schools in New Hampshire with commonsense and concrete rights concerning the education, privacy, and safety of their children.

It is important to note that H.B. 10 is not an outlier. 15 states across the nation have already passed laws codifying parental rights as fundamental, with many using similar, if not the same,

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language as that contained in H.B. 10.<sup>1</sup> If H.B. 10 were to become law, New Hampshire would become the 16<sup>th</sup> state in the nation to codify in state code that parental rights are fundamental.

We are proud to support this critical and timely piece of legislation. At a time when it seems that government is encroaching more and more on loving parents and their ability to care for, educate, and raise their children, H.B. 10 provides strong legal protections to New Hampshire parents so that parents – not bureaucrats – are the ones legally protected to make the important decisions necessary to protect, raise, and educate their children, so that their children can grow and thrive.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached via phone at 540-751-1200, or via email at [will@parentalrights.org](mailto:will@parentalrights.org).

Very truly yours,



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President  
ParentalRights.org and the Parental Rights Foundation

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<sup>1</sup> West Virginia (W. Va. Code § 44-10-7, as extended by *In re Willis*, 157 W.Va. 225, 207 S.E.2d 129 (WV 1973); *see also* W. Va. Code § 49-1-1(a) and W. Va. Code § 49-6D-2(a)); Kansas (Kan. Stat. Ann. § 38-141(2)(b); *see also* Kan. Stat. Ann. § 60-5305(a)(1)); Michigan (Mich. Comp. Laws § 380.10); Texas (Texas Family Code § 151.003); Utah (Utah Code Ann. § 62A-4a-201; *see also* Utah Code Ann. § 30-5a-103); Colorado (Colo. Rev. Stat. § 13-22-107(1)(a)(III)); Arizona (Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 1-601); Nevada (Nevada Rev. Stat. Ann. § 126.036); Virginia (Va. Code Ann. § 1-240.1); Oklahoma (Okla. Stat. tit. 25, § 2001—2005); Idaho (Idaho Code § 32-1012 – 1013); Wyoming (Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 14-2-206); Florida (Fla. Stat. § 1014.03); Montana (Mont. Code Ann. § 40-6-701); Georgia (Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-786).