

RESOLUTION Opposing House Bill 23-1003 School Mental Health Assessment

Preamble: The Supreme Court has repeatedly held the right of parents to control and direct the education and upbringing of their own child to be a fundamental right protected under the Fourteenth Amendment. This right is deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition and implicit in the concept of ordered liberty.

WHEREAS, this Board affirms the Education reEnvisioned BOCES fully supports the right of parents to be the authority in the education of their children;

WHEREAS, this Board affirms it is the ERBOCES' belief that it is the parents'/guardians' right and responsibility to direct the upbringing and education of their child(ren);

WHEREAS, this Board highly values and respects the diligent, thoughtful and caring work done by the teachers and staff of all ERBOCES schools and programs, particularly by those who provide counseling, mental health support and empathetic relationships to our student population in accordance with the consent of parents;

WHEREAS, the safety and welfare of all children starts in the home and parental involvement is a vital part of student mental and physical health, as well as educational success; and

WHEREAS, HB23-1003 seeks to usurp parental/guardian authority of their minor child(ren) by interposing the state as a surrogate decisionmaker.

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Education reEnvisioned BOCES Board, do hereby oppose House Bill 23-1003, School Mental Health Assessment and will opt-out of this and any other bill or measure that violates parents' rights.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 3rd day of May, 2023.

Lis Richard

Lis Richard, Board President Education reEnvisioned BOCES

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Bethany Drosendahl, Board Treasurer Education reEnvisioned BOCES