

What Catholics Should Know About Referendum-90 (R-90)

Repeal the New Comprehensive Sexual Health Education (CSHE) Law, formerly SB 5395



- **Washington's bishops support signing R-90.** R-90 will put a measure on the fall ballot so voters can reject the new Comprehensive Sexual Health Education (CSHE) law.
- **Current curriculum is not in line with Catholic teaching.** It does not adequately address complex moral issues tied to human sexuality nor properly discuss sex in the context of marriage.
- **Current law does not ensure meaningful curriculum review** by parents and guardians nor provide for public comment prior to implementation.
- **Local communities cannot protect their own values.** Locally elected school boards cannot fully determine their own policy in this sensitive area.
- **R-90 needs 130,000 signatures before June 10, 2020.** Visit [informedparentsofWASHINGTON.org](https://www.informedparentsofWASHINGTON.org) to find a signing station or work with parish staff to set up a signing booth at your parish.
- The law requires "affirmative consent curriculum" defined as "a conscious and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity as a requirement before sexual activity." This requirement is not in accordance with church teaching that sexual activity be reserved for marriage.
- Districts can create their own curriculum based on 2005 Health Standards. However, the CSHE mandate is unfunded. Consequently, districts may be more inclined to use existing state curriculum that is not aligned with the teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Over 130,000 public school students in the state do not speak English at home. There is no plan to communicate the new curriculum or opt out information to these families.
- "The right of parents to ... educate their children in the bosom of the family must be safeguarded." *Gaudium et Spes*, The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World, no. 52, from the Second Vatican Council.
- Parents can opt their children out of classroom instruction, but they cannot opt them out of school yard discussions and the culture change that may take place at school.

Visit <https://www.informedparentsofWASHINGTON.org> to find locations where you can sign R-90.

Visit <https://www.parentsforsafeschools.com/> to request a petition be mailed to you.

Visit the Washington State Catholic Conference <https://wacatholics.org/> for more R-90 info.