October 25, 2019

R. "Skip" Hellewell 21 N. Portola Laguna Beach, CA 92651

**Re:** HEART Middle School Curriculum

To whom it may concern,

The Pacific Justice Institute was asked to review the HEART curriculum for compliance with the CA education code (hereafter Ed Code) as modified by AB 329, the CA Healthy Youth Act (hereafter CHYA). This was done using Part 1 of the ETR Curriculum Assessment Tool (hereafter CAT). The CAT tool Part 1 is the most widely used method for assessing the compliance of curriculum, supplemental and other instructional tools in meeting requirements of the CHYA-modified Ed Code. The CAT tool is used, for example, by the Adolescent Sexual Health Group (hereafter ASHWG), a collaborative of governmental and non-governmental organizations formed to promote and protect the sexual and reproductive health of CA youth. CAT Part 1 may thus be considered the standard for assessing sex ed curricula compliance with the Ed Code.

We reviewed HEART Vol. I, the middle school curriculum for 7th and 8th grades, using CAT Part 1 to determine compliance with the CHYA-modified Ed Code.

Based on our review, we believe HEART Volume I fully meets the requirements of the CA Ed Code as modified by AB 329, CHYA for sex education as analyzed by the ETR Curriculum Assessment Tool, Part 1. The HEART Volume II includes all Volume I material plus additional age appropriate material appropriate for 9th grade students and is thus also compliant.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Peffer, Senior Attorney

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