

SB24-084 Written Testimony

An open email to the sponsors of SB24-084 Attorney General Duties to Prevent Mis- & Dis-information and the Senate Judiciary Committee

Hello my name is Cory Gaines. I am a resident of Logan County and lifelong resident of Colorado. I would have loved to testify in person against this bill, but my teaching schedule does not allow it. I will also be submitting this testimony to the official record on the bill. If anyone on this committee would like to read any or all of this email for the committee, please feel free.

I write today with some deep concerns about SB24-084, titled "Attorney General Duties to Prevent Mis- & Dis-information".

My concerns are easily expressed: do you want a government official, any government official to decide what is true and what isn't? Do you want them anywhere in the neighborhood of such a decision?

Because this is what this bill would do.

Any reasonable American would, I hope, answer no to my questions above. Regardless of the party or political philosophy of any given Attorney General, we should not have a government official anywhere near the decision of what's true and what isn't, of what is misinformation, disinformation, or what information is "proper" for us to see.

And any decent attorney general would tell you the same. Any reasonable attorney general would, I hope, tell you that he or she wouldn't want to do what your bill would ask.

Having said that, I want to turn around now and say that this bill does have one salvageable idea.

I do actually like the idea of an initiative to foster civil discussion. I think we need that. If the bill were solely about that, and if the initiative came as a result of statutorily-defined committee made up of people that represent all parts of the state and views across the political spectrum, I'd be writing in favor of the bill.

Having it come out of the AG's office as a sole work product of what I can almost assure you will be a group that is neither geographically or ideologically diverse is not the way to do it.

I urge the committee to vote no on this terrible idea: please encourage the sponsors to try again in the future with a well thought out initiative to foster discussion, but make a clear and convincing statement of

what our government's job is and is not by voting no.

Thank you.

Cry Gaines

Dear Judiciary Committee:

2-8-24 SB24-084 AG /mis-disinformation

This letter is in opposition, NO, on this bill. As a grandparent, and concerned constituent, I must confess; I am shocked at the verbiage in this bill. The premise that any one of you, as supposed elected representatives of We the People, could even submit something this anti-First amendment, much less totally against our constitutional rights as American Citizens, is not just appalling, it is criminal. I hope and pray that all of the criminal bills already put forth, passed, are judicially challenged, as they should be. I say No, and so should each of you! Unless you want to live in a marxist future, again I say NO!

For Freedom Jeany Rush Colorado Springs