To: Chairwoman Ruth Ward and members of the Senate Education Committee  
Re: Testimony on HB 1639, relative to the Youth Risk Behavior Survey in schools.  
Date: April 19, 2022  
Position: Oppose

We respectfully ask the Committee to recommend SB 234 Inexpedient to Legislate because the community organizations that receive grants from the New Hampshire Women’s Foundation use the YRBS to explain their need, show progress towards goals, and inform their curriculum and programs to make impact in girls’ lives across the state. The change to opt-in would drastically reduce the usefulness of the data to inform these programs and grant applications.

**NHWF Grantmaking**  
The New Hampshire Women’s Foundation invests in equality and opportunity for New Hampshire women and girls through research, education, advocacy, and grantmaking. The NHWF is the only funder in the state that focuses on women and girls. Our grantmaking program is able to grant only one in four applications, which shows how great the need is for programs supporting women and girls. The applications are reviewed by volunteers from all around the state. In the grant application, we ask organizations to describe their need. This is usually where applicants use data to explain the depth of need in their community. The YRBS is a crucial source of data for the organizations and this piece of the application is a critical factor in the review process.

**NHWF 2021 Community Grantees**

Belknap House
Family Promise of So. NH
International Insitute of New England
Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter
Seacoast Family Promise
YMCA of Greater Nashua
Brigid's House of Hope
Feminist Health Center (Joan Lovering Ctr)
HAVEN
The Every Voice Coalition

TLC Family Resource Center
Turning Points Network
Arts in Reach
Carroll County YMCA
Children's Museum of NH
Circle Program
Clarity Connections Center
Girls at Work
Harris Center for Conservation Education
Manchester Community Action Coalition
Remedial Herstory Project

**Conclusion**

We respectfully ask the Committee to retain the validity of the YRBS so that organizations serving girls all over the state will have access to data to explain their need and submit applications, not just to the NHWF, but to all funders of their important programs.