

OPPOSE SB 209 which would require any sex education taught in public K-12 schools exclusively teach “Sexual Risk Avoidance,” a rebrand of Abstinence-Only Until Marriage “Sex Education” and re-write the Sex Ed Code to exclude conversations about contraception.

As your constituents, we are urging you to oppose SB 209 by voting NO, speaking against this harmful bill, and organizing your colleagues to do the same.

- ★ In 2019, 40.7% of Alabama highschoolers reported that they are having sex, so keeping critical sexual health information away from young people only exacerbates their risk of experiencing sexual violence, unintended STIs, and pregnancy.¹
- ★ Alabama has the 7th highest teen birth rate in the US.²
- ★ Proponents of the bill say “Sexual Risk Avoidance” Curriculum includes conversations about condoms and contraception, however line 26 of the bill states: *“This bill would prohibit any sex education or human reproductive curriculum or program from: (i) providing a referral to or information about how to acquire an abortion or contraception; (ii) misrepresenting the efficacy of or demonstrating the use of contraceptives;”*
- ★ A 2017 study conducted by the University of South Alabama found Alabama parents expect schools to teach about abstinence AND condoms, contraception, how to prevent STIs, HIV, and unplanned pregnancy, healthy relationships, consent, and more.³
- ★ SB 209 undermines the progress needed to address critical public health issues and pursue bodily safety for youth in our state. By restricting access to comprehensive, evidence-based, age-appropriate sex education, this legislation compromises the ability of students to make informed, healthy decisions about their futures.
- ★ Alabama’s current sex education law was last updated in 2021 by URGE advocates and partners with bipartisan support that requires any sex education taught in public K-12 schools EMPHASIZE abstinence while also providing medically accurate information about contraception.
- ★ Alabama young people want and deserve sex education that is medically accurate, comprehensive, and LGBTQ+ affirming.
- ★ We urge you to prioritize the health, safety, and future of Alabama’s youth by opposing SB 209. Let’s invest in policies that equip our students with the tools

¹ [youth-risk-behavior-surveys-2019.pdf](#)

² [Teen Births | Stats of the States | CDC](#)

³ [Microsoft Word - Millner and Turrens Report Alabama Parents Study.docx](#)



they need to thrive, grounded in evidence-based practices and the values of our communities.

Vote NO on SB 209

If you have any questions or follow up needed, please contact Courtney Roark at croark@urge.org