

Utah PTA **Supports** H.B. 274

Background:

- H.B.274 requires the establishment of curriculum requirements that include instruction in sexual assault resource strategies and sexual violence behavior prevention. It would also include how to seek help, methods of reporting, and how to stop sexual harassment and sexual abuse.

What the bill does:

- This bill specifically seeks to address the sexual abuse that children sometimes fall victim to from “trusted” adults and others by teaching them sexual assault resource strategies, boundaries and the techniques used by sexual predators against their victims (grooming, manipulation, coercion etc..).
- This bill requires that material taught be age appropriate.
- The bill requires parents to be informed of materials taught and requires parental consent in an opt-in process.

What the bill doesn’t do:

- This bill does *not* elevate or glorify sexual behavior in the classroom.
- This bill does *not* introduce pornography in the classroom.

Questions to ask your legislator?

- How many cases of sexual abuse are reported yearly in Utah and how many children fall prey to these despicable and horrific acts?
- How many of these cases are taking place within the family unit or within the circle of “trusted” family friends?
- How many of these cases could be avoided by teaching children about sexual predation, abuse and assault techniques?
- What other ways are there to prevent these cases from happening?

Share your story:

- Have you ever been a victim of sexual assault as a child? How have you survived it?
- How would having a curriculum handling this difficult topic help you stand up to the abuse?