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NOMSA MARCHESI, MP
SHADOW MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION

29 October 2019

The Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education

Per e-mail: lbrown@parliament.gov.za

Dear Bongiwe Pricilla Mbinqo-Gigaba,

DA requests urgent Portfolio Committee on Basic Education meeting to discuss Comprehensive Sexual Education curriculum

I am writing to request an urgent meeting of the Portfolio Committee on Basic Education to discuss the new Comprehensive Sexual Education curriculum.

The South Africa Teachers Union's (SATU) operational director Johan Kruger, has stated that the implementation of the new Comprehensive Sexual Education curriculum proposed from Grade 4 onwards, is inappropriate for learners at such a young age and has unacceptable content. He stated that teachers will not feel comfortable teaching such content.

Comprehensive Sexual Education has also raised many concerns in the homes of citizens, following a media report that from next year, textbooks for Grade 4 to 12 learners will include a curriculum approach that includes masturbation, sexual consent, gender non-conformity and single-parent families as mainstream. There has also been an outcry from the religious sector.

It is due to these pressing issues that I believe a discussion needs to take place surrounding the content of the curriculum.

I therefore request that you urgently invite all the relevant stakeholders including Basic Education and Civil Society to address the Committee on their concerns regarding the Comprehensive Sexual Education curriculum.

I look forward to hearing your response in this matter.

Nomsa Marchesi, MP
Shadow Minister of Basic Education
Democratic Alliance