

From: Kathy Kysar <kysarkathy@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, August 28, 2026 9:38 AM

To: Legislative Comments <leg.com@matsugov.us>; Andy Mergens <andy.mergens@matsugov.us>; Chad Scott <praizer34@gmail.com>; Marty Kincaid <marty@mtaonline.net>; Karen Crandall <artiste3@mtaonline.net>; Sally Pollen <n3673z@gmail.com>; Julie Endle <jejujubee@gmail.com>; Cindy Redmond <cindyredmond69@yahoo.com>; Laura Anderson <leanderson90@gmail.com>

Subject: MSBLB Correspondence

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Andy,

Please make sure that this is included in the upcoming September Library Board packet.

Thank you.

I checked *Mad Honey* out of my local public library without knowing much about it. I expected a novel. What I got was a compelling story, an education in beekeeping, and a thoughtful exploration of gender, identity, biology, and what it means to be human. Honestly, that is exactly what I want from my public library.

I was particularly struck by the book because, right now, local book banner Jackie Goforth is trying to have *Let's Talk About It* removed from a public library, claiming the book isn't factual because, according to her, **"there are only two genders."** That's a pretty remarkable thing to declare while standing in opposition to the very purpose of a library: giving people access to information so they can **learn, think, question, and make up their own minds.**

Mad Honey makes the "there are only two genders and that's the end of the discussion" argument look about as scientifically sophisticated as a coloring-book answer to a biology exam. The book explains that numerous animal species naturally change sex or have reproductive systems that don't fit neatly into a rigid male/female binary. Clownfish can change from male to female. Wrasses can go the other direction. Coral can change sex. Some frogs spontaneously change sex in the wild. Bearded dragons can change sex while still in the egg under certain temperatures.

Nature is complicated. Human beings are complicated. Biology is complicated. Pretending otherwise doesn't make the complications disappear.

Another passage uses handedness as an analogy for transgender identity. Most people are right-handed. Some are left-handed. Some can use either hand. We don't tell left-handed people they're making a political choice. We don't demand that they learn to write with the "correct" hand. We eventually figured out that **different doesn't mean wrong.** That seems like a lesson worth remembering.

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Subject: MSBLB Correspondence

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