

I strongly oppose SB223 as it infringes on constitutional rights. Oregon prides itself in honoring the rights of everyone, yet this proposed bill goes against the rights parents have in choosing the format of schooling best fit for their children.

What can possibly be solved by this bill? If anything, it creates a wide gap between public and private schools. This bill would make public schools inclusive as it would cast out private schools from participating in events that bring students and families together in community, celebrating the gifts and talents of all of our children. Why would you seek to create and cause such a divide?

This bill seems nothing more than a ploy for the government to seek further control. The ODE already acknowledges that private schools are a "vital part of Oregon's educational system." Is this statement not honored by the very people who wrote it?

Private schools go through an accreditation process that is rigorous in order to ensure the quality of high level schooling and teaching. There is no need to be registered with the ODE as a result of such processes.

We worked so hard to establish our private schools. This bill seeks to destroy the sacrifice and hardship used to build them up. Please, in the midst of such chaos in the world, please do not seek to blur the lines between public and private schools. Vote NO on SB223.