

Dear Honorable Committee members,

I am writing today to voice my opposition to SB223. For the last 13 years, I chosen to send my children to private Christian schools in Oregon. There are many reasons for that, not all because of my deeply held Christian faith. A portion of my property, state, and federal tax dollars go to support the local public schools, but there is not any of that money that goes to the private schools in our state. Furthermore, I receive no reduction in tax for the choice of sending my children to private school. Because of this, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) should not have jurisdiction over the private schools. Also, private schools will receive no compensation for the time and expense in the implementation of SB 223, making this an unfunded burden on these schools. Furthermore, it is my opinion that the ODE has failed to do an adequate job of administrating the public schools, and with this reputation it would be a grave mistake for the Oregon legislature to allow ODE to perform any kind of administration for the private schools in our state. I stand firmly in opposition to this legislation.

Sincerely,  
David Buck