

I am strongly opposed SB223, which would force private schools to register with the state or be excluded from choir, sports, and other interscholastic programs. Private schools do prioritize student safety, and this bill is not needed for that. The bill is a threat to religious freedom and parental school choice. It is discrimination against private school students to exclude them from activities currently offered to both public and private school student bodies. The bill would also add expenses to early childhood programs and private schools with no benefit to them or their students. The legislation passed in 2019 to protect private school students, and schools being members of OSAA is sufficient. This bill undermines private education by making it subject to oversight by the state of Oregon.