



DAN R. SCHANZ • JAMES F. LAWLER • KYLE K. NAKASHIMA

March 15, 2021

The Honorable Michael Dembrow, Chairman
and Members of the Senate Committee on Education
State of Oregon

Re: Opposition to SB 223 - Relating to the Registration of Private Schools.

Dear Chairman Dembrow and Committee Members:

Thank you for your service. As representatives of Oregon and committee members, I would encourage you to apply the familiar, but true saying, "If it isn't broken, don't try to fix it." Oregon's private schools and educational institutions are thriving, and any interference in the form of SB 223 would only serve to diminish and ultimately derail the great work being performed by those serving our students through private education. Conversely, Oregon's public education system, according to a recent WalletHub comparison, is ranked near the bottom of the 50 states at 44. See Parfitt, J. (2019, July 30). *Report: Oregon's School System Among the Worst in the Nation*. KDRV. <https://www.kdrv.com/content/news/Report-Oregons-school-system-among-the-worst-in-the-nation-513405431.html>.

As a member of the legal and business community, I also want to bring to your attention the unintended consequences of passing SB 223. Currently, there are a growing number of small business owners who have left or are considering leaving Oregon due to the perceived hostile climate toward small business. Many of these small business owners participate significantly in private education. If SB 223 passes, you will see an increase in small businesses leaving Oregon. That is the worst possible outcome for all of us as Oregonians.

Finally, I question the constitutionality of SB 223. Oregon does not need to invite unnecessary litigation over constitutional issues. Our private school system is one of the bright spots in Oregon education. I urge you strongly to not pass this bill out of committee.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dan Schanz'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Dan Schanz