

I am writing to you to strongly oppose SB223. Our son is currently in an online school in which he is thriving. It meets or exceeds the state's educational requirements and is fully accredited for K-12. He is in this school because no less than two other private schools had no interest in serving him. Though he is very bright, he has severe dyslexia and acute anxiety as a result of trauma sustained from teachers and administrators who refuse to address his educational and psychological needs. Two years in and he is thriving. We went from "Well academically we think 5th grade was a wash" to an honor roll student who is healthy and happy. His teachers support him, instead of shaming him (which we have experienced) and truly are committed to his success. He is also a multi time champion swimmer with CYO's league. If SB223 passed his educational future and opportunities for future scholarships could be damaged if ODE up and determined that they did not like something that his school did, or if they perceived something, even if it wasn't accurate. This bill gives far too much power to a body that has proven-most recently opposing the safe opening of schools in Oregon-time and time again that it cares for adults, not students. This bill also opens the door to abuse of that power by that body. I ask that my Representative Christine Drazan to help kill this bill for the good of all students in Oregon.