

Greetings!

While I acknowledge there is a difference in approach to education for private and public schools in Oregon, I daresay the SB223 Bill may not be the full solution you are seeking.

The intent; to require ODE registration for private schools in addition to oversight and reporting from private institutions seems to be a bureaucratic overstep.

The impact of SB223 has essentially "raised the hackles" of current private institutions and families who choose this path for their children's education.

There are shortcomings with Oregon's public schools. Having been a graduate of Oregon's public school system I acknowledge this and had to supplement my own learning shortfalls with private education offerings such as Saturday Academy. Rather than focusing attention and resources to the current public school system, requiring private schools to register, have oversight committee funded, and asking private institutions to submit a variety of reports/information seems to ignore the issues in the public sector.

A question I do have: has this Senate Committee on Education considered the approach of Summit Public Schools? Essentially a public charter school which has had a phenomenal rate of success for children in California and Seattle. The proposed energy, time, and funds for SB223 may be better used in exploring the option of creating a Summit School(s) in Oregon and expanding this amazing program to the entire PNW.

We all want our children to have a shot at a great education to better their futures. Perhaps investing in public charter schools could help bridge the gap between the current educational gap between public and private schools in Oregon.