

To the Senate Education Committee

Senate Bill 223

Senators,

I thank you for your commitment to the people of Oregon and I ask that you do not take this bill out of committee.

I am a parent of three children ages 12, 13 and 16. My children have attended both public and private schools throughout their years. This flexibility has given them the education they needed at specific times in their lives. Currently I have one in private and two in public schools.

I see this bill as creating control, cost, manipulation and oversight where none was asked.

The benefits of private schools to the state are numerous: allowing for children to be taught in the way that suits them best, allows some to be taught alongside their religion, whether it be Muslim, Christian or other and offers something different that will benefit all down the road.

I was astounded when I found out about this bill.

Please consider:

1. Private schools have their own boards that govern the schools. ODE does not need to govern private schools.
2. OSAA nor any private schools have asked for this bill.
3. Fining schools for not complying is punitive.
4. Families have the right to educate their children how they desire. Having ODE oversee this, makes the private school a defacto public school.
5. Restricting private school students from playing sports with public schools unless they comply is punitive, and keeps communities apart, when they could be learning from each other.
6. This is an attack on the social and mental health of private school children.
7. This creates costs for private schools and another layer of government that we can ill afford. Using a \$1250 dollar daily fine is punitive and has nothing to do with educating Oregon students.
8. Why does ODE need to know items such as: instructional time, student behavior and discipline policies, facility health or teacher competency.

I ask that you do not pass the bill out of committee. I also have reached out to speak to Senator Dembrow to discuss this bill. I would love the chance to hear back from him so I could talk to him about this bill.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Tanya Chappelle