

Submitter:

Patricia Alder

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3624

To whom it may concern:

As a homeschooling mom of 5 and as a homeschool advocate, I oppose this bill. I do so with the full understanding of how expensive testing can be for families. Last year, I had two children testing and add in sending the requested test scores certified to our local ESD, we spent approximately \$150. The next time my children will be required to test, I will have 3. While I understand how wonderful not having to pay out of pocket for these exams could be to any struggling homeschool family, all I can see is the potential for overreach. ESDs would have easy access to lists of those taking the tests at public school and then, within their right, request the scores or even have the scores automatically sent to them by the public schools. There is also the potential of later requiring all homeschool families to test at public schools. This would be unfair for students that have never been a formal school setting and add to the test anxiety. As of currently, we enjoy the option of remote testing from anywhere in the state.

All I can see is the slippery slope of more government oversight when I homeschool to have none.

Please do not move this bill forward.