

Submitter:	Annette Collins
On Behalf Of:	HB3624
Committee:	Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3624

I urge a "no" vote on HB3624.

To quote Ronald Reagan, "The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the Government, and I'm here to help."

I have been homeschooling my three children for more than 10 years because I do not Want the government's help in educating my children. I deeply value the freedom I have to teach - and to test - my children according to my own family's values and my own understanding of what is best for them. Yes, I have paid out of pocket to have our children tested externally in accordance with state rules, but my resentment - if any - has not been about the nominal fees, but about the testing requirement itself.

Oregon has a fantastic track record of non-interference with parents who choose to educate their children at home, but bills like this threaten that by opening the door to centrally administered standards, privacy threatening records, and imposed dependency, all under the guise of a helping hand. Finally, It will cost money that could far more profitably be spent elsewhere.

Thank you for your consideration,