

I am writing in support of HB2835 because of the horrible things I have witnessed due to the Common Core Standards implemented in our school districts. The CCS are not developmentally appropriate. They seem to be created to frustrate students, teachers and parents.

I currently teach first grade in Josephine County at Three Rivers School District. I have previously taught second and third grade. The expectations for first graders at the beginning of the year is what I used to teach at the end of second grade or even third grade. I am teaching contractions, indefinite pronouns and prepositional phrases in first grade!! I am giving spelling tests with compound words to six year olds. I am teaching algebra, carrying and borrowing in math. I think the expectations are comparable to me taking an advanced French class without taking the beginning class first.

In Kindergarten, students used to be expected to know ten words by the end of the year. With the CCS, they are expected to know one hundred words by the end of Kindergarten!

Our "talented and gifted" students are challenged and frustrated by the CCS. These students, who score 97% or higher, are only finishing half of the Smarter Balance tests tied to the Common Core Standards. I have grandsons who are "talented and gifted." My fourteen year old grandson, who scored an incredible score of 262 on the Oaks test, asked me what the purpose of the Smarter Balance Test is. He asked if the government is purposely trying to make students feel frustrated and drop out of school. My grandson, who attended South Middle School in Grants Pass, Oregon, took the Smarter Balance test as an eighth grader last year. He is very concerned about his peers dropping out of school due to the Common Core.

As a dedicated teacher and grandparent, I am very concerned as to what the Common Core is doing to the children of our great state of Oregon. Please consider passing HB2835 for the future welfare of our children and our society as a whole. Please give teachers the freedom to teach at a developmentally appropriate pace to all children. The Common Core takes that freedom away.

Sincerely,

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