

Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

I am writing in favor of HB 2318 ("Too Young to Test").

As a mother, grandmother, and as a friend of a long time first grade teacher, I have seen first hand the short comings of standardized tests, especially when administered to such young children. And the practice puts great stress on the teachers to limit their curriculum to teach just to the tests.

Young children learn in different ways and at different times. The testing, sorting and tracking of young children fails to acknowledge that and is developmentally inappropriate. The practice has shown to be prejudicial against low-income students and students of color. Subjecting young children to repeated standardized testing and tracking causes unnecessary stress and anxiety, leaving many children feeling inadequate.

New York and New Jersey have passed a similar bill. I urge you to do the same. Pass HB 2318, the "Too Young to Test" bill.

Sincerely,
Patricia Armstrong
Yachats, Oregon