

Dear Senate Education Committee,

I would like to provide feedback regarding the introduction of SB 223 and the overreach of the state into Private School Education. I am a parent of two young kids, 9 and 7, who have been in both a public school environment & private school environment. This bill is a gross overreach into the rights of me as a parent and as a citizen of this great country. In the four years that my kids have been in the school system we have been in both private and public schools and based on what is best for our kids, the environment they learn best and thrive in, our choice is private school. We are gladly paying twice the amount not just because we can but because we feel it is the most important choice for our kids' future, by paying to the public school system through our taxes and then paying the private school tuition. We recognize that this is our privilege but we also donate additional to those families who do not have the means to obtain scholarships our school provides to help families who want to be there but are not as fortunate as us.

The state has shown over the last year that they are slowly moving to have control over all aspects of the citizens of Oregon and this new bill is a continuation of that. This country was founded by people who were opposed to gross government overreach and I am asking you to remember that by not passing SB 223. I will fight tooth and nail to protect the future of my children and for my choice to choose what is best for them, at most any cost.

I ask that you please protect all of Oregon's freedom of choice & the pursuit of life, liberty & pursuit of happiness. And I do not give my consent as someone being governed in this state to have my choice taken away through overreach of the ODE, a non voted upon entity.

Thank you,  
Pam Power