

Dear Chairman Dembrow, I strongly oppose SB 223. This bill is a significant threat to religious freedom and parental choice. It also undermines private education in Oregon by making it subject to oversight by the state. My child's educational needs are best served by our private Christian school. I chose to enroll my child in faith-based, private education. That was my choice as a parent. My child attends East Linn Christian Academy and there's a reason why they don't attend public school. Faith is very important to my family, and we are looking for a different kind of education. It shouldn't matter what type of school our children attend. I send my child to private school, and I also pay Oregon taxes that pay for Oregon's public education system. My children should have the same ability to participate in extracurricular activities as their public school peers. Please don't use our students as leverage in political fights. I ask you to stand with parents, like me, and vote 'NO' on SB 223. It's unnecessary and will only harm our children.