

I have five children. Our family has done public school, private school, and homeschool. I am vehemently opposed to this bill. The government has absolutely no right to insert itself into privately funded schools. Our family and others we know choose to pay out of our own pockets for schooling that we feel best fits the educational, social, and spiritual needs of our children and most aligns with our values (while still paying a full tax load to support public schools). If you look at any private school you will see a cross-section of races and socio-economic levels - most families at our private school are working class and sacrifice greatly for their children's education. However, what you will not see is a cross-section of results. Private schools overwhelmingly out-perform public schools, so why would the government feel the need to step in when public education itself is a complete mess? All I can reason is that they desire to control and possibly thwart the freedoms represented by the choices we are making as citizens and parents to send our children to private schools. Any interference in private education by the government can only be seen as undesirable and unwarranted. I urge you to vote NO on SB223. Thank you for taking the time to read this.