

We strongly oppose SB 223. This bill is a significant threat to religious freedom and our parental choice. It also undermines private education in Oregon by making it subject to oversight by the state. My children's educational needs are best served by our private Christian school.

It's unfair to punish our children by excluding them from enriching extracurricular activities that are currently offered to both public and private school students. Our school, Santiam Christian is currently a member of OSAA, and my children participate in multiple sports. During this pandemic it has been made abundantly clear that sports are a necessity for these children.

Faith is very important to my family, and we are looking for a different kind of education.

Thank you for being our voice and opposing this bill.

Sincerely,

Paul and Melissa Austin