

To the Senate Committee on Education RE SB223:

I want to express my extreme opposition to SB223. The idea of having private schools “voluntarily” registering with the Department of Education in order to be able to participate in interscholastic activities is outrageous! Also requiring these schools to maintain certain standards defined by the state, including school facilities, curricula and instruction time, takes away a major reason many private schools exist. This is nothing but a power grab by the state to enforce its idea of what should be taught and how it should be taught. The right to choose the type of school and education is something that should be entirely up to the parents - NOT THE STATE! And to punish those schools, and thus the students, by prohibiting them from participating in groups such as FFA, FBLA, National Honor Society and OSAA activities is nothing more than dictatorial behavior.

I implore you to vote NO on this blatant attack on private schools!

Sincerely,  
Coleen Montgomery  
Salem, Oregon