

Senate Education Committee,

(concerning Senate Bill 596, "Too Young to Test")

The legislature of the state of Oregon has the responsibility to oversee an educational system in Oregon which benefits and protects the education of our children. Standardized testing plays a role which as it presently occurs does a good deal of harm instead.

However, particular harm is done to our youngest school children with the rigorous system of standardized testing resulting in not only a vast amount of wasted time, but also in poor educational practices which are foisted upon educators who often know better but must follow these poor practices.

The legislature can help alleviate these errors by passing Senate Bill 596.

It is time for our state Senators to stand up for children and good education instead of falling prey to the corporate interests who like the money and have developed a system of testing which benefits themselves instead of children.

Don't fall for the false arguments that standardized testing helps teachers and benefits in some manner children of color. As it is practiced in Oregon it does neither.

As a 40 plus year school teacher and two term school board member in Portland who was a founder of Oregon Save Our Schools I believe I have the background to make these claims.

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