

OPPOSAL TO HB832

State regulations, which are paid by taxpayer funds, already handle review of education programs. This bill has a negative purpose. The taxpayers can not afford another burden during this pandemic.

Facts: High school graduation rate 67% homeschoolers vs. 57% public school student. (Michael Cogan University of St. Thomas study)

Homeschoolers scored 15-30% more than public school students in the Standardized Academic Achievement exams. (National Home Education Research Institute 2015)

Spring 2019 K-12 2.5 million in US are homeschooled.

Homeschool students save the Federal Government \$24 billion of taxpayer money yearly.

Patterson High (Baltimore City Public School) receives nearly \$16,000. Per student per year. IReady testing 2021 628 students tested, 484(77%) tested at elementary school reading level. 71 students included were reading at kindergarten level, 88 reading at 1st grade level, 45 at 2nd grade level... ONLY 12 STUDENTS 1.9% were READING at GRADE LEVEL.

Math results were just as alarming 575 students total only 2.9% tested at level. 455 students doing math at elementary level, 35 tested in kindergarten, 66 were 1st grade and 79 at 2nd grade level.

These studies are the reason we are homeschooling. So, if the current committees and programs in place can't support the student's education needs by doing their job why would we want a committee to run the Homeschoolers. The current education committees need to research their own programs and reinforce so that they don't have high school students reading and math at 1st grade levels. And the school listed above is not the only one there are others the same way. Students are kept and pushed through school so they can still receive the yearly funding. And as News reports show some students have been as far as incarcerated or signed out but taxpayers are still paying the school to teach them. Where is the money. Sounds to me you really need a committee to oversee the current public committee that is wasting taxpayers' money and failing the students.

The public school "committee" has many faults and is not working for the public students. So why would we want a group who can't oversee a safe education for students to form another one? This is the reason why we are HOMESCHOOLING to keep our kids safe and get a education. And it is obvious that the focus should be on cleaning up and reorganizing that committee. IN the past 2 months 1. A teacher has been charged with serving cupcakes laced with SEMEN, 2. Teachers engaging in inappropriate sex acts with students. 3. Teachers sharing drugs with students, 4. Several violent disturbances at several schools not just low poverty communities, such as stabbings, gunfire along with several bomb threats. So, focus on fixing the PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

If this bill is passed and a committee is formed to regulate and control my child's curriculum/program as a public student than we want the yearly Federal Student Funding.

Also, if the state has this extra salary funding why not put it to a useful purpose, like build a 24hour mental health/drug walk in clinic? Supply low-income students with home computers. Provide a network of free tutors for students from home. Have more county events to promote education, such as spelling bees, math events instead of so much on sports.

Sincerely,

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