

March 9, 2021

To Whom it Concerns:

Re: Omnibus Bill in the House Education Policy Committee

We oppose the Omnibus Bill currently in the House Education Policy Committee.

The extra reporting requirement conflicts with the 2011 Homeschool Mandate Reduction bill that allowed for simpler reporting for homeschoolers in Minnesota. The extra reporting requirement is unnecessary and undesired, not only by homeschoolers but also by the school districts. The school districts are already overloaded with paperwork requirements and they do not want or need more requirements for homeschoolers. Changing the homeschool standardized testing reporting requirements is not necessary and there is no reason to burden the school districts and parents with extra requirements. The additional requirement of "proof of prior testing plan" and a "copy of the official test scores" is specifically what alarms us. We have been homeschooling since 1999 and have currently graduated five children, who have been successful in their chosen life paths and careers, without the school districts needing to see their test scores. As parents, we want what's best for our children and educate them accordingly.

Please REMOVE this proposed language from the Omnibus Bill. *"A letter of intent to continue to provide instruction must include a report to the superintendent with proof that the testing plan for the previous year was fulfilled as agreed upon, a copy of the official test scores, and information required in paragraph (a) for each student for the upcoming school year."*

Thank you for your consideration.

Mark and Sarah Wiebe
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