

Allow me to address the concerns I have requiring parents to submit proof of testing (including test scores of their children) to government authorities. After reading this bill it is unclear to me why this new requirement is being introduced at this time. There is no credible evidence demonstrating that a change in homeschool standardized testing reporting requirements is necessary or useful. Approving this new requirement would be a step backward for homeschooling freedom in Minnesota. Reporting test scores to government officials and school districts would give unconstitutional authority to see private data. I am the educator of my children, not the state, and thus the state has no authoritative power to view my child's test score. In 2011 the state of Minnesota passed the Homeschool Mandate Reduction Bill which paved the way for more simple homeschooling laws. School districts do not want to collect more information anymore than parents want to provide more information. Furthermore, parents of public school children have the right to opt their children out of standardized testing. Thus, not only does the requirement of standardized testing requirements unfairly discriminate against homeschooled children, it is an overreach of government into our lives. The bottom line is, my children belong to me, not the state. The test scores of my children are private information and should continue as such. I cannot support this bill and ask you to vote "no" on behalf of all homeschooling parents who have the right to educate their children.