

My wife & I would like to submit a written testimony to be considered regarding the proposed requirement of forced reporting of the test scores of homeschooled students, along with a “prior proof of testing plan”.

We strongly oppose this added requirement, as there is no evidence that it is necessary or useful.

We have enjoyed homeschooling our children in the great state of Minnesota for over 20 years. During that time, we faithfully submitted the required information, and tested our children annually. The reporting was sufficient, without being burdensome to either us-- the homeschooling family, or the personnel at our district office. We were glad to see the passage of the 2011 Homeschool Mandate Reduction Bill, and considered it a commonsense step forward in the process. The school district offices were also glad to have less paperwork to receive and maintain. Adding forced reporting of test scores or “testing plans” would be a significant step backwards for all in involved.

In addition, this reporting would be a violation of privacy, allowing government officials or other agents the unconstitutional authority to access private data. Parents should still be the ones who decide how their children are educated.

Thank you for taking the time to read our testimony.

Sincerely,

Kelvin & Susan Kraemer

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