

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to voice my concern I strongly opposing the proposed language in the omnibus bill in regard to “Proof of proper testing plan” and “A copy of the original test scores.”

There is credible evidence to suggest that a change in home school standardized testing reporting requirements is unnecessary and not useful.

My daughter was in the public school system until 2nd grade. The schools are not equipped to care for my children as I do, nor teach them what they actually need to learn. During her time she was in the Cambridge schools, she was bullied by a teacher and as a result her grades reflected that. I had meetings with the principal, and she agreed with me that my daughters work was not reflective of the grades she was given. We switched to North Branch that next year and that was even worse. There, 1 kid kicked my daughter so hard in the vagina, she got a bruise! Nothing was done because the privacy of the kid who kicked her, had rights. On another occasion, I picked her up from school, and she was incoherent when her teacher brought her out to me. She explained that a heavy chair fell on top of her head. No ice was given or anything. I couldn't get her to even talk she was crying so hard and in such a daze. I immediately drove her to the ER and she had a concussion. Sure, things can happen anywhere, but the way it was handled was completely negligent. We had many medical bills, eye therapy, glasses, concussion clinic bills, physical therapy, not to mention the trauma of having to go through that. Then have the effects of the concussion on top of all of that, and me having to figure out how to help her learn, while still in that school. She was light sensitive in the florescent lights in the school and would get daily headaches. She was always in the nurses' office because of that concussion.

I had the privilege of being invited into her class to pick up some paperwork. It was complete chaos! Kids looked like they were doing some sort of relay? Some kids were just wandering around and my daughter was sitting in her desk. I asked her what was going on and she said she was waiting for direction from the teacher. That must have been a good day if the teacher was confident for me to see what was going on at that particular moment.

I AM THE BEST TEACHER FOR MY CHILDREN! I do not want my rights to be altered. The school districts are not capable of keeping my children safe, let alone knowing how my individual children learn. They are not cookie cutters, and both of my daughters have very unique ways of learning which I have discovered and developed throughout the years.

The school district also concluded that they did not want to receive and maintain extra paperwork from home schoolers. I believe that as a home schooling parent this would be a significant step backward for home schooling freedoms in Minnesota. It would impose unnecessary and burdensome requirements on Minnesota home schoolers and districts. Also it could provide government agents with the unconstitutional authority to see private data. Parents should be the ones to decide how their children are educated.

Thank you for listening to my concerns,

Annette Schaab