

Attention HF 874 committee:

We have a child who struggled in traditional school—even with the support of pull-out programs—but she has excelled in home education. She has found enjoyment of learning again as she is allowed extra processing time and one-on-one instruction. Please do what you can to help keep homeschooling an option for her and others who enjoy this freedom.

HF874 might sound innocent, but it is full of foreseeable problems. We all want to see improved educational outcomes in Minnesota schools, but this amendment will not provide them. Creating a fundamental right to a "quality public education" for "all children" could lead to the dramatic regulation of and possibly even abolition of private education. Changing the constitution puts decision making in the hands of the courts instead of elected officials. Frankly, I don't trust judicial elites to make these difficult decisions.

The amendment's "child rights" language disregards important federal constitutional presumptions that parents have a constitutional right to direct their children's education and that they are presumed to make decisions in their best interests. This amendment would put government bureaucrats over parents.

These proposals would create litigation as parents and even current or former students would be able to sue schools for either denying a fundamental right or for failing to "fully prepare them with the skills necessary for participation in the economy, democracy and society."

There are too many unanswered questions and too many risks. Instead of giving government entities more power, parents and local authorities should be empowered to have more options for educating children.

Please withdraw your support from HF874.

Sincerely,

Jenna and Russell Grigsby

2535 10th Ave S

Minneapolis, MN 55404

grigsbyjenna@gmail.com