

March 9, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lesly Goudy. I am a homeschool mom of 6 amazing children; 2 daughters and 4 sons. My husband and I have been homeschooling in Minnesota since 2012 and reporting our homeschool since 2014. We have chosen this alternative and have very much appreciated the freedom to educate in our home and address each of our children's needs individually. Each of our children learns differently style-wise. We also have children that have needed assistance through private therapies for disabilities in learning. I am so grateful that we have had the opportunity to teach each child in the best way for each of them as individuals!

Today, I am writing you to let you know that I am strongly opposed to the proposed test reporting requirements in the Minnesota House DE Amendment (Letter of Intent changes in the Education Policy Omnibus Bill).

Test reporting requirements proposed language:

"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."

I am concerned with the additional requirement of "proof of prior testing plan" and a "copy of the official test scores." Why is this being proposed? This reporting requirement is contrary to the 2011 Homeschool Mandate Reduction bill which helped to simplify reporting requirements for Minnesota homeschoolers. At that time, the school districts, who are already greatly burdened, also agreed that they did not want to receive and maintain unnecessary paperwork from homeschoolers - nor do homeschoolers need or want the additional paperwork.

This would be a significant backward step for homeschooling freedom in Minnesota. It would impose unnecessary and burdensome requirements on Minnesota homeschoolers and districts. And, it could provide government officials or other agents with the unconstitutional authority to see private data. Parents should be the ones who decide how their children are educated.

Thank you,

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