

To Whom it May Concern,

I'm deeply concerned about the HF 874 and urgently request that all legislators vote against it. On the surface the bill sounds like a rational requirement of the public schools, however the wording that all children are entitled to a *public* education is problematic. Although the legislative representatives to whom I've written don't think this will impact private and homeschool students, the vague wording leaves room for interpretation, and the danger to private and home educators is that it could be interpreted to mean that all students *must* attend a public school. If this sounds unlikely, it was tried several years ago in Oregon and essentially ended the right of students to a private or home education. The state was sued by private schools who won their case, so it is not surprising that home and private educators are skeptical that this isn't a Trojan horse. If the legislature would like to demand changes within the public schools, they already have the power to do it. If the goal is to only impress this mandate upon public schools, why not change the wording to make that abundantly clear?

Sincerely,

Andrea Roeger

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