

To: Lauran Taken-Holtze
From: Steve Gewecke
Date: 3/09/2021
Re: MN House DE Amendment (Education Policy Omnibus Bill)

Hello,

I am writing this letter in regard to the aforementioned bill that pertains to reporting requirements for Minnesota home educated children. I stand strongly opposed to this unnecessary action as there is nothing wrong with the status quo, so there is no need to change it! Home educated youth are more than adequately prepared for the future with many achieving high levels of academic excellence and scholarships to post-secondary schools after high school.

The provisions that have been written into this bill are onerous to homeschool families and is unnecessary. There is no credible evidence that suggests that these proposed changes to homeschool standardized testing is necessary or useful. Plus, the reporting requirement is contrary to the 2011 Homeschool Mandate Reduction Bill which paved the way for simpler MN homeschooling reporting requirements. This has also been previously welcomed by the school districts as a way to reduce or eliminate burdensome requirements for MN homeschoolers.

Bottom line is that I believe it is our personal right and freedom to decide how our children will be educated and that we cannot accept any infringement on those rights.

I am asking you to **OPPOSE THIS ACTION** to change and re-write the existing laws, statutes, policies, or any other enforceable actions to the status quo regarding MN homeschooling, everything works just perfectly fine, please just allow it to continue successfully as it has for many years!

Thank you!

Steve Gewecke

St Cloud, MN