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Testimony in regards to bills HB5078 to delay implementation of common core's standard and tests and HB5331 to revise guidelines for school district's teacher evaluations

I'd like to support the idea of bill HB5078 as to delay the implementation of Common Core with the ultimate intentions of repealing the adoption of the Common Core State Standards Initiative and all that is involved. There is a lot of misinformation about the common core and once you find the unbiased facts about the Common Core standards and initiatives it would only make sense that we all would want to repeal this adoption. Our kids and our education system in CT have nothing to gain and everything to lose from these untested standards that are not globally benchmarked as we all were told and they are not more rigorous than our previous standards without the abstract crazy math. These are not college and career ready standards. Top educators are saying K-2 is way too aggressive and that they will be two years behind on math compared to our old standards by graduation.

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I ask that you change the language in HB 5078 to require an independent research organization outside of the state (e.g., Mathematica) to conduct a study on the impact of implementing Common Core's standards and SBAC on school districts in the state. It is inappropriate to ask the state's Department of Education to conduct such a study since it participated in developing Common Core's standard and SBAC.

The standardized testing is also proven to not show accurate results and the misinformation once again how we place globally also should be looked into as there are many variables. Being compared to China and South Korea where all they do is teach to the test, the weak fall behind, drop out and are not counted is not an equal comparison. Let's also consider the suicide rates in those countries that is sky high along with all the new anxiety issues with students across America since standardized testing has become so popular since no child left behind act. It results in a lack of creativity and critical thinking. Last year China filed about 25,000 patents. Most of which were changes to existing inventions. America filed about 150,000 many of which were for completely new inventions. Many wealthy people in China send their children to America for their high school educations so that they can learn how to think critically. Test scores are not necessarily indicative of a better education, they really only represent better test takers.

There is a big mess in our classrooms and bad standards, crazy testing, along with all the 400 data points supposedly being collected needs to come to an end. No third parties should have access to

my child's information like the FERPA law originally stated prior to 2008 nor anyone outside that said child's district. Teachers being evaluated 6-8 times a yr. and the principals having to spend their time doing extra evaluations on top of all their existing responsibilities doesn't help a school. My child is in kindergarten and I am very concerned and I am very involved. Not quite sure how well this fits with the Constitution either as I am still looking and I ask you to look into that as well. Education should remain locally controlled. Parents have an unalienable right to the guidance of their child's education. There is no such thing as Democratic or Republican standards. I hope that you will listen today and seek the unbiased facts about this situation so you too will have a similar view on education as us parents, teachers, and educators here today do. It would only make sense with November around the corner for us to support those who have our similar views. Thank you for your time and hearing us today on this very important issue.