

Testimony

Education Committee Public Hearing

March 18, 2015

Bill # 1095: AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENTS ASSESSMENTS.

My name is Chris Simo-Kinzer and I am a concerned parent of 3 in the Plymouth public school system.

I am deeply troubled by the annual standardized testing being proposed in this bill. The changes increase the years students in CT schools will be tested. These tests are taking up valuable teaching time.

The amount of time wasted in school hours taking these tests is counterproductive of whole point of the classroom. As it is, we refused to let our children take the SBAC field test last year and are doing the same this year. We are providing them with work to be done while these tests are being administered. This is work the professional educators SHOULD be doing.

I have personally taken the sample tests online and found them to be counterintuitive, some questions needlessly confusing, and some acceptable answers to be outright incorrect.

Standardized testing has be proven time and again to have absolutely no beneficial outcome and I implore you to stop the spending on this 'experiment' – and that's all it is – so as my children's educational years are not a repeat of the previous failed attempt to 'fix' education under NCLB.

Thank you

Christopher Simo-Kinzer

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