

Senators, State Board of Education, and to Whom it May Concern:

This is Sarah Renzoni and I strongly oppose SB-H74. My hope is for our legislators to take the time to listen to parents who passionately work hard to educate their children. When given this freedom to educate our children, we are also shaping them by teaching daily life responsibilities in our homes, and serving our communities, the elderly, and neighbors. I most specifically oppose sections 17 and 18. The truth is the Department of Education through the public school systems fail at providing model curricula for their students, public schools fail at providing the optimal results for academic performance, and public schools fail at being able to use evidenced-based techniques in: promoting a safe environment for students to learn, free of sexual harassment from teachers and peers, threats of terrorism, bullying and peer pressure leading to suicide.

SB-874 is an unnecessary intrusion into family privacy. There is no reason to place this burden on innocent families who statistically are safer than those who are in public school, and consistently score higher academically than public school students. SB-874, which is geared to keeping children safe, is ineffective to keep children safe and will instead expose more children to the danger of parental alienation. Regulation is unnecessary and counterproductive as parents should have the major influencing role of education if desired.

In addition, the local Board of Education currently posts its curriculum for homeschool parents on their website and no more regulation on this is needed. On model curricula, which we assume the state means the Common Core, it is too soon to see results and too soon to realize the promises it has made to make students college and career ready. The statistics on success are not yet complete. However, statistics on homeschooling success have been in for many decades. Homeschoolers use a variety of curricula and continue to outperform their private school and public school peers, proving that the state is unable to prove that they can provide "model" curricula.

Current statistics reveal that homeschoolers are performing 30% higher in all standardized tests including the SAT and the ACT; public school students lag behind at 50% while homeschoolers sit at a constant 84% rate of success for more than 2 decades (NCES). These stats are nothing new. In section 18 line 659, the bill is proposes that the state provide it's curricula online to close "achievement gaps" yet, according to the most current research African-American students who are homeschooled perform 23%-42% higher in standardized testing than do their African-American peers in public school.

Existing law recognizes the parents as having the right to the training and upbringing of their children. Other laws address any concerns that might exist. One study shows no significant impact when regulations are increased. Another state's audit showed a negative impact of regulation of keeping children safe.

I ask that you please vote No on SB-874.

I'd ask that you consider the evidence, the research provided by the National Center for

Education Statistics on the success of homeschooling within our communities.

I thank you kindly for taking the time to read through this email and the many other passionate voices of homeschool parents prior to making the decision.

Sincerely,
Sarah Renzoni