

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

Many believe that support/opposition to what is being proposed with this bill pits those who “blindly” support teacher unions and public schools against all others. Based on the organizations the persons standing before you represent, you have probably already assumed what you will hear from each.

But, this isn't about teacher unions or public schools. This is about the transformation of our Constitutional Republic to a nation without representation; one with unelected councils and increasing consolidation of our communities to regional governing. It's about the necessary transformation of true education for the individual pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness, to one of dumbed down curriculums and behavioral conditioning supported by data mining systems necessary for training-for-the-workforce.

It is un-American.

I am submitting testimony in opposition to HB2552. Simply, it is a “school choice” bill, building on the mandate that public school districts administer state ELA assessments to every student, and requiring public school districts to notify parents of opportunities, including one “opportunity” to enroll in a private school (with *government monies following the child* into the private school and deducted from the public school). All of this is not so simple, as there are actually loads of requirements and reporting that must be met by children, their parents, the school district, the private school, and state agencies. Hence, we have a 17 page long bill.

Bill proponents try to say, this is our money we paid in taxes and the parent controls the money in the account. Well, it's also money paid by other tax payers. If it's just the money the individual tax payer has contributed, then why are there all the qualifying, reporting, and monitoring requirements for the tax payer's use of their “own” monies? Why is there an “account” set up for every participant, administrated by the state treasurer, and with remittances only allowed for approved education types? If it's really freedom and choice, then why isn't it the same as if the individual citizen paid for his child's education out of his own bank account?

This is the direct “ATTACHMENT” OF THE GOVERNMENT TO A CHILD. The money following the child is the government following the child.

Yet, even in all the pages of this bill, there remain points and questions that are not openly revealed or addressed.

- ✓ How individual taxes are being given to private education organizations that are not run by publicly elected boards, thus doing away with representative government. Taxation without representation.
- ✓ How the promotion of a taxpayer funded exodus of children out of public schools advances the destruction of local school districts.
- ✓ With the loss of local public schools, will there be a corresponding reduction in local tax payer taxes that were previously assessed to support local public schools?
- ✓ How government monies infused into private schools will result in the infusion of public school paradigms into private schools. (Direct student services, mental health support services, hiring psychological personnel for support services, billing Medicaid for school support services, etc.) This will impact all students at the private school, not just participating program students.
- ✓ The decline or elimination of locally elected school boards.
- ✓ The negative impact on homeowner property values.
- ✓ The establishment of a “state administered account” on each child, for government accountability and oversight over every participating family. The federal camel with its nose in your family's tent.
- ✓ Disbursements are to be for evidence-based practices and programs (i.e. aligned to Common Core standards, SEL, etc.). Freedom and choice to use monies for non-qualifying education designs is not allowed.

- ✓ The increased cost to the tax payer to fund/support the administration of all the accounts, including monitoring each one to ensure all expenditures meet the requirements of the program. And, then all the costs associated with ensuring any parent repayments are collected.
- ✓ If and as participation grows, ALL schooling is nationalized, supporting the training for the workforce system necessary for global governance.

Reading this bill, I can't help but think about the screening of the documentary, *Giving Kids a Fighting Chance*, which was also attended by members of this committee. The film featured Jeb Bush and what is purported to have happened in Florida. The producing organization even brought in the former Commissioner of Education for Florida who served a short two years, from 2011 to 2012.

The Florida experiment has been written about for some time. Florida, along with other states, "traditionally had the lowest academic test scores, in part due to their children being experimented on with the same Skinnerian Effective Schools/Direct Instruction pigeon-training methods since 1965, are all on board with the school choice agenda and workforce training. When our system remained an academically-focused one, these states, which were involved in experimentation for the new system, were considered failing. Now that **the focus has officially changed to work force training, and the tests focus on training, not academics**, these states are considered succeeding. And we are meant to follow in their footsteps?" [Emphasis added] <http://newswithviews.com/iserbyt/iserbyt115.htm>

The former commissioner confirmed an attendee's statement of how education has been transformed in Florida with

- much teacher re-training and in-services,
- "teaching to the test,"
- increasing testing/assessing to 12 days of the school year,
- a heavy emphasis on the assessment/advancement of 8 and 9 year olds (3<sup>rd</sup> graders), and
- a universal reading program for four year olds.

One wonders how many viewers of *Giving Kids a Fighting Chance* have independently confirmed the "successes" of Florida. As a grassroots parent—not representing any foundation or funded interest—the representations made in the production were in conflict with what the Florida grassroots people are experiencing.

And, then there's Jeb Bush. Good 'ole, Jeb.

- Jeb Bush is a major promoter of Common Core standards.
- There's his Foundation for Excellence in Education (FEE) that has also served as a champion for Common Core standards.
- He is a prominent supporter of the individual data-mining of children, and as governor of FL, had Florida become the national model for the collection of personally identifiable information on children.
- People all across our nation who are deeply opposed to the government takeover of all remaining education options under the phony guise of "school choice," know that Jeb Bush is one of the worst offenders on this front.
- Jeb Bush includes "school choice" as essential an element as all the other paradigms that are causing parents to flee public schools.
  - "My personal belief is there is no one single thing that needs to get done," said [Jeb] Bush .... What it will require, he said, is a **combination of school choice** (vouchers), **CC standards**, rigorous **assessments**, consequences for anything less than excellence, and using **technology** to transform education .... [Deliberate Dumbing Down of America 7] [Emphases added]

This all may sound good unless you know the history of education: the failure of outcome-based education, and the shift from actual education to training-for-the-global-workforce.

This IS NOT a new concept. This is a renewed attack on our nation and true academic education, parent rights, and freedom.

It has been previously **fought** and **stopped** by REAL educators, not people trained in behavioral conditioning and de-humanizing outcome-based systems.

Formerly, when teachers actually prepared their own academic lesson plans, they recognized the shift occurring from “acquiring knowledge” to Skinnerian/Pavlovian “outcomes/performance-based” conditioning. And, they **rejected** it.

But, we’ve had decades to forget and decades to be socialized. “Education” has been effectively transformed.

Now, every child is nothing more than a data point/cog in a system/factory to be trained/molded however “stakeholders”/managers—not parents—dictate in order to achieve/attain a desired outcome/product.

Every child is now nothing more than a piece of capital—human capital—for the state. (Hence, the normalized talk of state “workforce needs.”) And, this IDEA used to be **abhorred** by educators and parents, alike.

Government designed “school choice” is nothing more than the next rebrand of Common Core

Government designed “school choice” is the next and final phase to force every child and every mode of education into the same system: psychological training/molding for the global workforce.

Government designed “school choice” is designed to eliminate local representative government and to re-distribute taxpayer monies.

This is the failed communist/socialist job quota system from which millions of foreigners used to be able to escape by coming to America.

This “School Choice” is a TRAP.

This “School Choice” attaches government monies to the child.

This “School Choice” ATTACHES THE GOVERNMENT TO THE CHILD.

I, along with many Kansans, have researched the history and already failed record of what you are proposing.

It is puzzling to me that in the same breath, an organization referring to itself as focused on **limited government** and **personal liberty** then goes to such great lengths to create something that will only **expand government** and **infringe** on personal liberty.

Why aren’t these large foundations and benevolent individuals supporting freedom of education, rather than “choice” in education? Why aren’t these benevolent persons privately providing resources to promote true education?

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