To the Honorable Ron Highland, Chair of the Education Committee

As we've witnessed a dramatic decline in quality of US education since  $\sim$  '79 despite or b/c of the dramatic infusion of taxpayer funds previously unparalleled

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far beyond the scope portrayed by the Dept. of Education it is paramount for the Departments success to rid itself of those activities not directly associated w/teaching children how to read, write, perform math, learn history & the US way of life & governance. This activities include money spent, man hours required to implement systems that are ever more Marxist, Fascist & Sorelian in context. Indeed, not since the former Soviet Union, Warsaw Pact countries & I suppose China have such policies existed whereby the governing are so concerned, terrified @ what the governed are thinking & doing. Indeed, it's as though every word one utters, writes in email, searches for via internet or speaks is placed away as evidence against them for some future crime.

Our child, children in the USA today spend more hours in school, performing homework & other activities & still they fall behind other nations of the world. Perhaps, it requires less centralized oversight rather than more, perhaps it requires looking back @ what made US education a cornerstone of society, that made the Vietnam War Soldiers arguably the best educated, most intelligent force the USA ever sent into combat.

There is nothing wrong, especially @ a time when increasing numbers of Americans are struggling to survive to continue gouging out a greater rate of taxation w/little to show but Orwellian "Big Brother" spying & indoctrinating our children. Indeed, significant sums could be saved w/government that recognizes it's limits & expertise thus saving the taxpayers untold sums which can ill afford to be budgeted.

I encourage you to reject Common Core as academically it is a blight on our education system & rather more than on the education budgets be they state or federal. Perhaps, now is a good time to bring budgets, philosophy, etc. in line w/what is necessary. Please reject Common Core Initiative in KS. Please spend our increasingly difficult to provide funds frugally.

Sincerely, Mr & Mrs Bradley J Menze