

My name is Irma Lightner-Reimer and I support HB 2292.

As a member of the House of Representatives, you were elected to represent the people of Kansas, not other states like Florida, California or Montana. We are blessed to live in the United States of America and to have a system where we can voice our opinion and make a difference in the laws and regulations of this state. The citizens of this great State of Kansas want you to defend our rights by making sure our children are protected and educated the way we feel it is best. Our children do not have a voice. We MUST speak for them and make the best decisions for their future and not allow people from other states to do it for us. This is why we must return to the 10th Amendment of the United States Constitution, which allows Kansans to educate our kids the best way WE know how. For these reasons, I ask that you vote YES on the House Bill 2292.

Divide and conquer. This is what Common Core has done to our state. After studying Common Core for nearly two years, I have concluded there are two sides to this issue: The schools (includes administrators and teachers) versus the parents. Those who represent the schools and defend the standards point and say, "Look at the standards yourselves. We are hiding nothing." Even though there is NO EVIDENCE to show that these standards will achieve the "college and career" readiness they claim. Those parents who oppose the standards see how it is affecting their children. The so-called "rigorous" standards and assessment testing have left many children feeling "dumb" as they are required to take the failed test again and again until they can pass it. How can this possibly prepare the child for anything but failure under these conditions? Simply put, it doesn't. As a result, the two sides are split on what is best for the child and the child is left with nothing but confusion. The teachers are taught to "calm" the parents' concerns or the parent's may choose to "Opt Out" and the rest of the children continue down the destructive path of Common Core. No changes can be made at the local or state level so the parents do not have a voice. They cannot rally other parents to make changes because the federal government is in charge.

I agree as do everyone in this boat; we want what is best for the children. BUT, Kansans should not be subjected to the standards set in other parts of the country. Once the federal government has complete control of the entire school system, it will make it very difficult to bring the control back to Kansas.

I ask you to make the right decision and vote YES on HB 2292. We have the responsibility and duty to make sure our kids get an education that we can control, not those who live in different parts of the United States. I am confident, if the state education leaders listen to parents, grandparents and concerned citizens, our state can make right choices concerning our kids' education.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Irma Lightner-Reimer

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