

HB 2302 - Reasons to Pass the Legislation
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We urge you to pass the HB 2302 legislation that requires copies of certain tests, questionnaires, surveys, and examinations to be provided and written consent must be given by the parent or guardian before the student can be given them.

There are many reasons why this act needs to pass!

1. Public schools should not collect personal data from our children, it is simply none of the schools' business! The collection of such data is a FERPA violation! As parents of three young adults on our health insurance plan, our insurance and medical facilities do not even share private information with us because it is *intrusive, personal, and confidential*.
2. Such forms and questionnaires usurp parental rights. As parents, we were never informed about the test and were never privy to it! It is a direct violation of our parental rights!
3. This information is collected and used by a third party and can be used against the child and family. We also find it discriminatory! In our role as teachers, we never shared nor imposed our religious belief or political views on any students. Likewise students and families should not be forced to divulge confidential data with schools.
4. It is a complete waste of time! We were irate when two of our kids came home from high school and told us about an online test that consumed a big part of their day and asked them all kinds of very personal questions. They did not like it one bit. The test was horribly written and executed. One question asked them about their drug use - for which they replied they never tried drugs. Question after question after question followed asking them how often, where, when, with who... did they do drugs - over and over and over - 150 questions! Then the test crashed and they had to retake this test all over again! The test was so terribly formulated that they wanted to scream and pull out their hair!
5. So many Kansas schools are failing the basics such as math, reading, (real) history, and science already! 68-73% of our students in the Emporia School District score in the bottom two (out of 4) categories on the KS State Assessment in Math, Language Arts, and Science and that was in 2019 (the latest data available). Let's face it, our students have probably lost at least half a year of schooling due to Covid19 and these scores will be much lower. Most parents we've talked to reported that their kids were failing at least two classes this past semester and were behind in the others.
6. Many of the teachers do not share our same moral values. School districts in other states are teaching kids about sex and sexual partners as young as kindergarten. Schools are stripping kids of their innocence and inadvertently teaching them negative behaviors with dire consequences.
7. These are "reported" survey questions that are can be largely influenced by how a kid feels that day and many simply randomly filled out to get it over with. Kids are most likely NOT going to report illegal activities that would get them in trouble. The answers and data are completely unreliable and useless.