

Written Testimony SB63:

I am a Board Member of the Kansas Home Educators and 22 year home educator (with more years ahead of me). I am writing to express my concern for the proposed changes to Senate Bill 63.

My student's ACT test scores and other private educational data is not for public use and cannot be traded for the cost of the ACT fee. SB 63 includes the provision: On or before the first day of each regular legislative session, the state board of education shall prepare and submit a report to the senate standing committee on education and the house standing committee or any successor committees on education that includes the aggregate exam and assessment data for all students who were provided the exams and assessments pursuant to this section.

I have been informed that student data collected from the ACT testing and provided to the State Board of Education includes student names and test scores.

Additionally, according to part (b) of SB 63 'Kansas department of education shall annually notify the official custodian of every nonaccredited private secondary school registered with the department pursuant to K.S.A. 72-4346'. K.S.A. 72-4346 referenced in part (b) is the registration part of the non-accredited private school law. Using the registration part of the law for the purpose as proposed in SB 63(b) seems to violate the "sole purpose" of 74-4346 as clearly defined in 74-4347.

We do not need this notice. Any high school student can access ACT test dates and ACT test sites on their own. According to statute the registration of non-accredited private schools is not intended for this use.

These proposed provisions not only violate the privacy of students but seem to violate the very heart of the non-accredit private school registration requirements by the state.

At a time when there is not enough money in the budget for the education system in Kansas, it seems paying for the ACT test for non-accredited private school students is not the best use of funds.

Home Educators have been accessing ACT testing, test sites and navigating college admissions on their own for decades. We do not need free ACT testing, or to be notified of test dates or testing sites. Because of support from groups like KSHE and many others, homeschool families are being provided the resources, support and information they need to educate their children with excellence.

Respectfully,
Lona Gorman
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