

DISCLAIMER

Electronic versions of the exhibits in these minutes may not be complete.

This information is supplied as an informational service only and should not be relied upon as an official record.

Original exhibits are on file at the Legislative Counsel Bureau Research Library in Carson City.

Contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or library@lcb.state.nv.us.

Mr. Chair and Board Members,

4/9/03

My name is Frank Schnorbus. I am the President of the Northern Nevada Home School Advisory Council. Our councils are appointed by and advise the State Board of Education on homeschooling matters. I am also an Officer in the statewide organization Nevada Homeschool Network.

For those who don't understand what makes homeschooling work, the effort to require mandatory testing for homeschoolers is perhaps an innocent attempt to make sure that all children are receiving an education in the State of Nevada.

But for those who don't want homeschooling to succeed, this is a sure-fire way to decrease the effectiveness of homeschooling. Forcing a one-on-one teacher/student to stop and try to prepare for a mandated test when the student isn't ready is neither helpful for the education of the child, nor will it produce meaningful results.

Homeschoolers do use testing as a tool when the child is ready. Making it mandatory is detrimental to homeschooled children. Homeschoolers often tailor the overall education to the child, and often this doesn't follow a cookie-cutter grade structured sequence. A mandated test in these cases would yield meaningless results.

Currently, to test or not to test homeschoolers is determined by regulations adopted by the State Board of Education. Homeschooling leaders across the State have been working very closely with both the State Board and with the State Dept of Education to meet the concerns and the regulatory requirements that exist pertaining to homeschooling. We ask that this good working relationship not be tampered with as we work on ways to keep homeschooling effective for those who choose, and to keep those who should not be homeschooling in either public or charter schools.

We ask that Section 49 of AB264 be amended out, or if it's not, we ask that you vote against the entire bill.

Sincerely,



Frank D. Schnorbus
N. Nevada Home School Advisory Council, President
Nevada Homeschool Network, Officer