

memo

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Legislative Council Staff
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State Legislature

To: Lcs.ga@coleg.gov

From: Proponents: Ms. Marla Fernandez-Benavides, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and Ms. Iesha Wood, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CC:

Date: January 12, 2023

Re: Submission of petition for proposal to fix our education system

Single issue legislation proposal.

Issue: our government-run schools are failing to provide basic education and Colorado students have a higher rate of mental health than any state in the nation. Our students would benefit from a standard that relieves them from being poorly instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic which places undue stress on them to have the equal opportunity to compete with others for work. This stress causes them mental stress and anguish as they can't compete in the market for work.

There is no redress for parents or students who believe the government schools failed to provide them with a quality education. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to maintain a claim against a school for negligence for failing to instruct kids in the basics. Even if such an action were successful, the damage done to the child (by reason of loss of time and educational opportunity) might be difficult to repair.

Money doesn't cure everything. Our schools receive BILLIONS of Taxpayer dollars already. I haven't seen any positive results since 1984 when PHONICS FIRST was removed from our schools. I have seen declining test scores, and a higher-than-normal illiteracy rate.

Proposal request: Repeal the Comprehensive Sex Act and the Science Reading Act and replace with a Parents have the **natural right** to raise and train their kids (Parental Equity and Inclusion in Education Act), and if a parent believes their kids are misdiagnosed, misevaluated, or poorly instructed, should be able to choose a school that better fits their kid's needs and taxpayer money should follow the child to wherever school, public or private, that parent chooses.

Should be written into legislation as DAMAGES for schools failing to train kids academically: Every effort should be made to allow parents to decide what is in the best interest of their child/children. If the parent is unable to agree with current government school plans for their child, then the parent should be able to seek legal relief under

Colorado Tort Act for negligence or at the very least Colorado Contract law. The objective should be to improve the child's education, and parents are their children's natural representatives until they come to the contractual age of 18. The government should allow the parent to sue the school for damages for breach of contract for a child that lost out on educational opportunities.

Proposal for what constitutes a good education: First define what it means to provide a good education. This is the Education Law standard. The **definition** for -- a good education -- **is essential** in order to prepare to take one's place and do your civic duty in America, governing yourself and holding your elected officials accountable. **It is also essential** to take one's place in the world and earn a living. **Therefore, the States only duty is to provide a basic education that includes reading, writing, and arithmetic.**

Reasoning why the Comprehensive Sex Education Act must be repealed: Parents have their own value-shaping educational purposes, and government schools are threatening the entire Judeo-Christian-Muslim-Hindu-Buddhist way of life, which mandates an ascetic existence free from worldly influence.

Moreover, the state should Repeal the Science of Reading standard and make Phonics First the standard for providing children with a basic education. Teaching kids to read properly and allowing parents to provide their own moral education at home will solve the problem of suicide and mental health.

Conclusion: While the majority of parents do not dispute preparing their kids for the modern world, both academically and socially, many Colorado schools are overstepping their bounds to teach things the majority of parents do not agree with. Colorado schools are failing kids academically. Many parents are pulling their kids from public schools. So, it is ONLY logical that we repeal both bills simultaneously and replace with a more accurate definition of what schools have a reasonable duty to do to help every parent raise successful kids.

In general, parents have a legitimate interest in insuring their children have a good education, and a fundamental right to determine their children's education. The state has a duty to protect any parents' right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for their children.

By legislating that parents have a right to their child's funding, you will be allowing that child to attend the school that best fits the student's needs whether private or public. The Supreme Court has issued an opinion stating that the government can't withhold funds just because private schools are religious. Therefore, I argue that we legislate for an end to government-run monopolies and give students a true marketplace of education to prevent students from facing academic losses and put the parents back in the driver's seat of their kid's basic needs.