

I am writing in support of the HB2318, "Too young to test". It's time that Oregon join other states around the country that have acted to limit the number of standardized test and turn away from the test mania that had gripped the country for the last dozen years.

From New York to California, states have reversed the trend of over testing because it has become obvious that they are hurting children and are not contributing to improvement in their education. In California, getting rid of the requirement that students pass a standardized test in order to graduate and recently cutting the number of test by a half in LA, should be a model for Oregon. New York and New Jersey have passed laws to prohibit testing of children before third grade. We should join them.

As a teacher with over 40 years experience I have seen the destructive effects of over testing. From narrowing of curriculum to teaching to the test, I have seen how the teachers have been demoralized and the profession decimated by people leaving.

As a father of a first grade teacher I have listened to my daughters frustration with district and state testing mandates that she, as a professional, sees as age inappropriate.

Leave the testing to the teachers that use the results to improve instruction not to the corporate testocracy that benefit financially from selling their product.

Please support HB2318 for our children

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