

15 November 2024

Chair Brenner, Vice Chair O'Brien, Ranking Member Ingram and members of the Senate Education Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 293. My name is David Burkholder and I am from Fulton County.

The Supreme Court saw fit and prudent to pass a document that would allow parents their God given right to educate their children in a manner that seems right to them. One word, "may" rather than "shall," should not prevent them from doing so.

As an elementary educator, serving as a teacher and administrator in excess of forty years, I have observed a great need for children to receive character education taught through the principals of the Bible. Because parents are so busy, it falls on outside interests to supply this essential need.

Passage of this bill does not in any way obligate parents to participate in release time, but rather, provides for those who wish to do so.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to advocate for Senate Bill 293.

Sincerely
David Burkholder