

Concerning Senate Bill 293:

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 Linda Sanders and I am from Franklin County.

I believe Parents have the right to allow their children the opportunity to decide if religious education is part of their child's schooling, and not decisions made for political means, formed organizations against families' religious rights, and parents who do not want their child to participate in any time-released bible education. Every parent has the right to choose what's best for their children. Research and independent studies have proven that for children that have attended LifeWise programs, their behavior has improved, school attendance and the child's confidence to make right choices.

Bible education also has played an important part in the child's academic performance and mental health as well. Parents even gave testimony, how they see a change in their child's attitude, their behavior and academic performance even when they are at home.

We as parents/grandparents want what's best for our children, and not decisions made by others who have no concept of what they want for their own child's future.

It is the parents' religious right if they want their child to have bible education as a curriculum for their child, and it should not be invaded by no one.

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

Sincerely,
Linda Sanders