

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Aaron Olbur. I am 39 year old father of two elementary age children and an uncle to 3 intermediate, middle and high school age children. I am strongly opposed to SB 293 and its House counterpart HB 445.

Children leaving school during the school day is not only disruptive to the students leaving but also to the students staying to learn. By choosing to exit the school during "special" classes it implies that "specials" such as Language, Art, Physical Education, Music and Library are unimportant and not worth learning when that could not be further from the truth. This is also disrespectful to teachers and school staff. Furthermore, religious education or any other extra curricular can be obtained before or after school or on the weekends- outside of school hours.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote NO on this harmful bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

I will now take any questions you may have.