

Dallas Erickson Testimony  
HB 47 Full Time Kindergarten  
House Education Committee  
February 2, 2005

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am Dallas Erickson and I represent Montana Family Coalition. I am here to ask you to table this bill. In light of the poor standing of public education today and the apparent failure to improve the teaching in our schools the Whereas's in this bill are some one's imagination or wishful thinking.

Back before public schools the common laborer and common man and woman read and understood the Federalist papers. They were not written for the elite but for the common man and woman. Professors report that today's students indicate they can not understand them.

There is nothing to brag about government schools and much to suggest they are failing in keeping up with the educational needs of our Nation.

At a congress of Communist Party educators in 1918, schoolteachers in the newly formed Soviet Union were instructed: "We must remove the children from the crude influence of their families. We must take them over and, to speak frankly, nationalize them. From the first days of their lives they will be under the healthy influence of Communist children's nurseries and schools. There they will grow up to be real Communists."

The vision of removing children from "the crude influence of their families" and raising them as wards of the state can be seen in proposals such as HB 47. No we don't have to worry about them becoming Communists in this day and age but we do have to worry about the public school agenda as pushed by the MEA-MFT and others to embrace values and issues that are contrary to the Founding Values of this nation.

Parents love their children. Children therefore will be safer at home and would usually be better taught by a loving Mother and Father. Yes, there are exceptions to this but let us not make a law that addresses the exceptions rather than the rule.

This is plainly an attempt by OPI to bring in more money. I am sorry but their interests are not the same as the interests of loving parents.

Please table this bill.

Thank you.

Dallas D. Erickson  
Montana Family Coalition  
4479 Store Lane  
Stevensville MT 59870  
(406) 240-5277