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My name is Tammy Latta. I've been involved with the Flathead Valley Homeschool association off an on for the last twenty years. I've home schooled my three children for sixteen years. Two of my children have been on the deans list in college for their grades and one has received scholarships. All three of my children have excellent work ethics. I'm not sharing this to brag, but with my two years of college and home school teaching background, I've started working this year in the public school system as a substitute teacher or teachers aid for all grades in several school districts.

and without teaching certificate or bachelor's degree

In the Jr. Highs and especially the High School, there are classes of kids and many aids who work with them, who are called resource kids or even labeled Special Ed., when they're not handicapped. These kids have behavior, academic, and self esteem problems and very low work ethics and morals. They don't have much motivation to learn and are allowed in some classes to bring candy, chips, pop and CD walkmans to listen to. Some kids spend half their day raking leaves, cleaning cars, houses, delivering newspapers or working in the school cafeteria as part of their school day. I realize there are sincere and qualified teachers and aids doing the best they can with the resource and Special Ed. Kids and other problem kids not in the resource department; however, these kids are pushed through the system and allowed to graduate and get a diploma. When I see the public school system not working for these kids and the difference between these public school children and the many home school children, who generally have high academics, behavior, work ethics, self esteem and morals; I am appalled that people would want to put regulations, tests, home visits, and rules on home schoolers and the money that it would cost to do this. The home school system we have now works, and there is a truancy law that works for those few homeschoolers who aren't being responsible. I wish you could understand the commitment, love and sacrifices that home school parents make for their children.

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