

Date: January 25th 2022

Document: Public Comment for HB583

Bill Chief Patron: Delegate Danica A. Roem

Commentator: Wanda B. Lott, Loudoun County Virginia

Position: Against the bill

Summary of my position:

I am against the passing of HB583 because I am for the passing of HB511. If both bills pass, HB583 will make public education unequal for students who are homeschooled

I believe if HB511 is passed and HB583 is also passed, HB583 will make education in Virginia unequal and here is why:

Many homeschool students still are enrolled in part time courses within their local school districts. When I first withdrew my son from full time public school attendance to homeschool oversight, he remained enrolled part time in two courses at his local public school.

Per code of Virginia [22.1-253.13:2. Standard 2. Instructional, administrative, and support personnel](#), students who are enrolled on a part time basis at their local public school are counted in that school's ADM, which means the school still receives funding for them. I am not sure how much funding per child this amounts to in Virginia but historically schools receive half of what they would have received if the child attended full time. This means that a part time homeschooler would still be providing a school with funding above what it takes to provide two courses for them. Having contributed that, it would be unequal to then require that the homeschooler pay for the opportunity to participate in interscholastic sports at that same school if the student desires, but whose parents do not have the ability to pay.

Although the narrative is that homeschoolers coming from wealthier families, this is not the case. Many parents of various social economic groups have moved to homeschooling due to Covid issues. Many low income families are now homeschooling. It would not be equal to allow students who attend public schools on full time the right to participate in sports without cost and not provide the same for homeschool students who attend part time but are still being counted in the schools ADM.

Sincerely,
Wanda B. Lott