

Testimony in Support of CACR 24 - Relating to the Right to Direct the Education of Children

Chair and Members of the House Education Policy and Administration Committee,

I am writing in strong support of CACR 24 and respectfully urge you to recommend this bill for a vote on its language as a constitutional amendment as *Ought to Pass*.

This amendment affirms a principle that has long been understood in both law and tradition - that parents and legal guardians are the primary educators of their children and have the right to direct their education.

Parents bear the lifelong responsibility for their children's intellectual formation, moral development, and future readiness. They are accountable for outcomes. It is therefore both reasonable and just that they retain the primary authority to make educational decisions.

The amendment proposed by CACR 24 does not abolish public education. It does not eliminate standards. It does not create chaos. What it does is clarify that the starting presumption in educational matters belongs with families, not the state.

In times of cultural and political change, educational policies can shift rapidly. Embedding parental direction in the constitution provides stability and guardrails. It ensures that future policy debates begin with respect for family autonomy.

New Hampshire has long valued local control, personal responsibility, and limited government. This amendment reflects those values. It reinforces the partnership between families and schools while clearly establishing that parents retain the ultimate authority to direct the educational path of their children.

Educational freedom is not extremism - it is foundational to a free society.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask you to vote CACR 24 as Ought to Pass and allow the voters of New Hampshire the opportunity to affirm this important principle.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
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