

SCHOOL CHOICE & HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM

WHY GOVERNMENT FUNDING
ISN'T THE ANSWER



OREGON CHRISTIAN
HOME EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION NETWORK
(OCEANETWORK)



Who is OCEANetwork?



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- Independent/Private homeschoolers are parent-directed and parent-funded.

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- The Legislature is definitely confused about it, and typically legislators don't know the laws or rules surrounding homeschooling.

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 - Homeschoolers excel academically.
 - Homeschoolers don't take government funds.
 - When homeschool freedoms are threatened, homeschoolers show up and speak up.

What is School Choice?



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**School Choice = Government Funding for
Private Education**

Publicly funded



Public School: Public schools are publically-funded, brick-and-mortar schools. The majority of students in the U.S. attend public school. The state funds the schools, provides the teachers and sets the course of study.

Privately funded



Private School: Parents choose the school and pay for it. Education takes place in a classroom. These can be special interest schools such as Montessori or church-based schools.



Public School at Home: The state pays for these schools, but the education takes place in the home. These can be online schools, charter schools which have students work out of the home under the supervision of a teacher, etc.



Private Homeschool: Parents pay for their children's education, choose the course of study, provide the materials, and do the teaching or pay for supplementary instruction.

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- Do we really want to try to play both sides when it comes to funding and accountability?

What the Government Funds, the Government Controls

Invites Regulation and Oversight

- Taking government funds motivates the Legislature to regulate the use of those funds or prevent them from being diverted.
- "...will not be required to change their creed, education practices, admission policy or curriculum."
- Does nothing to protect independent homeschoolers from other actions/regulations.

Impacts Educational Freedom of Future Generations

- Government programs inevitably bring government accountability and oversight.
- Since when have government programs been known for shrinking?
- Slippery slope away from educational freedoms that were hard-one to begin with.

Increases Costs

- “Free money” always comes with longer-term financial consequences
- Prices of curriculum, private school tuition, etc. will go up. as more money is available to families.
- Taxes will go up to cover the cost of the funds that were diverted.

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- Does it have the potential to lead us to compromise?

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- A step backwards for the homeschool movement

**🚫 School Choice initiatives don't deliver
on what they claim. 🚫**

- They don't protect homeschoolers from regulation.
- They don't expand school choices.
- They don't cause a mass exodus from public school.
- They don't save anyone money long-term.
- They don't empower parents and families.

**Avoid the funding trap and keep independent
homeschooling free!**

Freedom-Minded Families!

- Don't chain your child's education to the government.
- Embrace true educational freedom.
- Trust in the Lord for guidance and provision.
- Encourage and support each other.
- Walk in that freedom together!

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- Doesn't School Choice empower parents?
- Would more protective language fix it?
- What about other approaches? (Vouchers, ESAs, Tax Credits)

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- Isn't it my money since I pay taxes?
- Shouldn't the money follow the student?
- Won't this help families in need?
- Doesn't School Choice empower parents?
- Would more protective language fix it?
- What about other approaches? (Vouchers, ESAs, Tax Credits)
- Aren't you just fear mongering?

What's the Solution?

OCEANetwork's Mission Statement:

OCEANetwork exists to serve the Lord Jesus Christ by equipping families to biblically disciple the next generation through home education, and by protecting and advancing private home education freedoms in Oregon for all.

**“Equipping homeschool families.
Protecting homeschool freedoms.”**

What's the Solution?

1. Educate others on the dangers of government funding.
2. Encourage families to embrace true educational freedom.
3. Work to protect and expand homeschool freedoms in Oregon.

What's the Solution?

Protecting and Expanding Homeschool Freedoms in Oregon

- Providing accurate information about laws and regulations.
- Monitoring bills and initiatives year-round.
- Going to bat for homeschoolers when needed.
- Year-round support and encouragement.

What's the Solution?

Protecting and Expanding Homeschool Freedoms in Oregon

- Apple Pie Day and Capitol Day

Apple Pie Day

An OCEANetwork Event

Home
Education
Freedom
Works



oceanetwork.org/ApplePieDay/

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- Homeschool Freedom Challenge

HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM CHALLENGE

PRAYING FOR YOUR LEGISLATORS

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE, AS WELL AS OUR RESPONSIBILITY, TO PRAISE OUR GOVERNMENT LEADERS. - BILLY GRAHAM

Our Legislators

Name: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Address: _____

PRAY TOGETHER

- For protection for them and for us as they bear the responsibility of representing us (Jeremiah 10:7)
- For understanding to know right from wrong and seek the good of the people they represent (1 Peter 2:11)
- For wisdom, discernment, as well as a love for the people they represent (1 Peter 4:8)

EXAMPLE LETTER TO SEND TO YOUR LEGISLATORS

ADD TEXT RIGHT HERE

Dear Senator/Representative: <Name>

Our family just wanted to reach out and let you know that we appreciate your role in the legislature and the decisions you face every day. We are praying for you!

We are a homeschool family that cares deeply about our children's education as well as our homeschool freedoms.

We have included some information that we hope will help provide insight into why homeschooling is important to us as a family. Our child has been thriving and following we hope you will find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

 School Name

Connecting with legislators is a great way to promote homeschool freedom with legislators and put a "face" to the homeschool movement. It makes a difference! Start by sending a friendly and encouraging letter today.

POINTERS TO REMEMBER

- 1 SEND A HAND-WRITTEN LETTER TO BOTH YOUR STATE SENATOR AND YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE.
- 2 PERSONALLY YOUR LETTER. INCLUDE A PHOTO OF YOUR FAMILY, DRAWING FROM YOUR CHILD, ETC.
- 3 REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR LETTER WITH A COPY OF THE HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM WORKS PAGE INCLUDED IN THIS PRINTABLE PACK.

ADVOCATE FOR HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM!

Send friendly and encouraging letters to your legislators.

ABOUT Apple Pie Day: Apple Pie Day is a fun way for families to celebrate homeschool freedom. It is a day to celebrate the freedom of homeschooling. It is a day to celebrate the freedom of homeschooling. It is a day to celebrate the freedom of homeschooling.

Homeschool Freedom Challenge!

INCLUDED IN THIS PRINTABLE:

- INVITATION FOR YOUR LEGISLATORS
- EXAMPLE LETTER TO YOUR LEGISLATORS
- "WE LOVE HOMESCHOOLING" KIDS LETTER
- HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM WORKS INFO SHEET
- ADVOCATE FOR HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM LIST OF IDEAS

DAY ONE: GET READY FOR THE CHALLENGE

Print off this printable pack and read through it. Invite other Oregon homeschool families to join the challenge. (oceanetwork.org/hfchallenge)

DAY TWO: PRAY FOR YOUR LEGISLATORS

Find your legislators (hdsb.org/legal/legislation/find-your-legislator) and pray for them and homeschool freedom every day as a family.

DAY THREE: SEND A LETTER

Send a simple, positive letter to your legislators. Include a drawing from your child (pg. 4) and the Homeschool Freedom Works page (pg. 5). Let us know you sent the letter by filling out this form: <https://bit.ly/HFCLetterSent>

DAY FOUR: PLAN A VISIT TO THE CAPITOL

Plan an in-person or virtual visit to the Capitol! Find more info in this packet on Apple Pie Day, how to visit the Capitol, and our Capitol Field trip printouts.

DAY FIVE: ADVOCATE FOR HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM

There are many ways to learn about homeschool freedom and how to pass it on to future generations. Find a list of ideas on the last page of this packet.



WE LOVE HOMESCHOOLING!

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO! HERE IS A DRAWING I MADE FOR YOU



Homeschool Freedom Works!

Homeschool families in Oregon provide their children with quality education that fits their students' needs and interests and produces excellent results.

Homeschool freedom works! Maintaining those freedoms is important to us. We ask that you would keep the following in mind when you see bills or initiatives cross your desk that may impact homeschoolers:

1. Independent homeschoolers are diverse, well-rounded, and outperform their peers.
2. Their success depends in large part upon remaining parent-led and parent-funded. Thus, we neither initiate nor support requests to give public funds to independent homeschoolers.

Advantages of Home Education

- Tutorial style of teaching for quicker learning
- Students have extra time to develop talents and interests
- Positive socialization with people of all ages in various activities
- Homeschooling can provide strong family relationships
- Opportunity for an early start to college or a trade

Homeschool Facts

- Oregon homeschoolers, on average, score 29 percentiles higher than the national average.¹
- Homeschooled students receive an academic boost at all ability levels, including special needs students.²
- The typical homeschooled student is well socialized, on some issues showing better results than conventional schools.³
- Homeschool academic achievement is not boosted by regulations.⁴

Thank you for supporting homeschool freedom in Oregon!

¹ <https://homeschoolfreedomforall.com/homeschool-effect-reports/>
² <https://homeschoolingforpeace.com/homeschoolers-score-at-all-ability-levels/>
³ <https://www.oxfordjournal.com/oxford-journal/homeschooling-socialization-100.pdf>
⁴ <https://homeschoolingforall.com/legislating-homeschooling-effect/>

6-Page Printable Pack!

OCEANetwork.org/hfchallenge

What's the Solution?

Protecting and Expanding Homeschool Freedoms in Oregon

- Apple Pie Day and Capitol Day
- Homeschool Freedom Challenge
- Oregon 2023-24 Homeschool Academic Performance Study

2023-2024 OREGON ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT STUDY

HELP PROVIDE UPDATED
DATA TO PROTECT
HOMESCHOOL FREEDOM!

OCEANetwork.org/study

OREGON CHRISTIAN
HOME EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION NETWORK
(OCEANETWORK)



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- Oregon 2023-24 Homeschool Academic Performance Study
- 🎉 **Full Freedom Bill in 2025**

What's the Solution?

Protecting and Expanding Homeschool Freedoms in Oregon

- ✓ Volunteer
- ✓ Donate
- ✓ Become a Member
- ✓ Pray, Pray, Pray!

