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**Subject:** FW: HB 1508: Please Support  
**From:** Stacie Ohsberg <stacieo@outlook.com>  
**Date:** Thu, Feb 20, 2014 9:05 am  
**To:** "dsolomon@unionleader.com" <dsolomon@unionleader.com>, "rich@girardatlarge.com" <rich@girardatlarge.com>

My letter to the House Education Committee in support of HB 1508.

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From: stacieo@outlook.com  
To: houseeducationcommittee@leg.state.nh.us  
Subject: HB 1508: Please Support  
Date: Thu, 20 Feb 2014 08:56:32 -0500

Dear House Education Committee,  
I am writing in support of HB 1508. Common Core is not the best set of standards for our children. I can speak to this not as an uninformed parent as Commissioner Barry claimed at the initial hearing, but as an informed parent living it every day. I have a seven year old daughter who from the time she could barely talk was doing math. One time in particular stands out when we went through the Dunkin Donuts drive thru and purchased 5 munchkins. My husband, my daughter and I all ate one. From the backseat we hear Maggie say Mommy there are two donuts left. My husband and I looked at each other beaming realizing that she had just done subtraction and of course we came to the conclusion that we had a little math genius on our hands. When she started school and people would ask her what is your favorite subject, she would consistently respond Math and Physical Education. This year I noticed that changed. She no longer was saying Math was her favorite subject when asked. When I asked her about it, she said that it was so confusing with the way her teacher was teaching it she was having a difficult time understanding and learning it. I can attest to the confusion. I will use multiplication as an example. They are teaching multiplication with arrays. After a very long 30 minutes of attempting to explain arrays, I showed her the "old" way of multiplication and she picked it up with one example and was able to complete her homework using the old way. Using the Common Core way we would have been sitting there the rest of the evening with frustration being the only result. So here we have a girl who loved math from the start and in less than a year of working with Common Core now hates it and dreads doing homework. I was here for the initial hearing and heard Commissioner Barry's statement and I take issue with it for a few reasons. She claims that parents are now just starting to pay attention. I have been paying attention to Maggie from the moment I knew I was pregnant. Commissioner Barry also stated that people that oppose Common Core are misinformed. I vehemently disagree with this and I am offended that she would say I am misinformed. As stated I am involved in my daughter's life and go out of my way to make sure I am as informed as possible when it comes to her. It does get a bit confusing though as we were told by our Principal and administration that Common Core is the law and we have no choice. I have seen an email from Senator Stiles that states that implementation of Common Core is up to each individual school district. Well which is it? Commissioner Barry also stated that the opposition is taking away and distracting from the real issues. This confuses me as I thought discussing Common Core is discussing the real issue which is education. Common Core has in a very short time killed my daughter's love of math, please move this legislation forward before it kills any further love of learning.  
Respectfully,  
Stacie Ohsberg  
Hampton Falls

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