

Lawyer Warns Bill Would Create a 'Surveillance State' for Homeschool Families

The Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA) is sounding the alarm about a new law being proposed in the state of Connecticut, saying it will lead to a "surveillance state" for homeschooling families.

The bill in question, H.B. 5468, would reportedly lead to sweeping changes to the Connecticut homeschool law, requiring significant additional oversight when parents withdraw their children from public school.

Not only would families be required to submit annual education portfolios, but the government would also collect and record data on the families.



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Parents would also reportedly need to get permission to homeschool from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) in certain circumstances.

"One of the most troubling aspects of the proposal is the idea that parents could need permission from a child welfare agency before teaching their own children at home," HSLDA Associate Attorney Ralph Rodriguez said. "That represents a significant shift in how homeschooling families are treated under the law."

HSLDA reports that thousands of homeschool families have submitted written testimonies to the Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly, opposing the bill. And hundreds showed up to speak against the measure.

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