



Proposed Initiative

The Colorado Student Assessment Program (CSAP) is a political event, has nothing to do with educating the state's youth, and violates both the letter and spirit of Article IX of the State Constitution. Therefore, we propose the elimination of CSAP testing.

Article IX, Section 1 of the Constitution of the State of Colorado states, "The general supervision of the public schools of the state shall be vested in a board of education." Section 2 states, "The general assembly shall provide for the establishment and maintenance of a thorough and uniform system of free public schools throughout the state." Section 15 states, "The general assembly shall, by law, provide for organization of school districts of convenient size, in each of which shall be established a board of education to consist of three or more directors to be elected by the qualified electors of the district. Said directors shall have control of instruction in the public schools of their district." Section 16 states, "Neither the general assembly nor the state board of education shall have power to prescribe textbooks to be used in the public schools."

This language reflects the essential foundation of a democracy, that the people themselves are best suited to making the decisions that most directly impact their lives. Within this context, CSAP consists of prescribing texts and demanding that schools and students compete against each other regardless of local concerns. Thus, this program violates both the spirit and the letter of the state constitution which mandates local control of the state's schools, and denies the general assembly and the state board of education the power to prescribe textbooks.

We, the below-mentioned citizens, therefore propose the elimination of CSAP testing through this initiative.

Donald A. Perl
2424 22nd Avenue
Greeley, Colo. 80631
970 - 351-0179
dperl@myexcel.com

Andres Guerrero
1601 Cedar Avenue
Greeley, Co. 80631
970 -353-9542 (home)
970 -330-8008
ext. 6657 (work)

Christina Kauffman
329 45th Avenue
Greeley, Colo. 80631
970 - 351-0407