

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL FORUM ON HOMESCHOOL NETWORKING AND COMMUNICATION –

April 26, 2018

TEACH CT by Pam Lucashu, Legislative Assistant

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD

Q: Does increased regulation improve academic performance?

A: No. According to a study in 2010, homeschool students test at the 80th percentile or higher, which is significantly higher than public school student scores. There was no statistical difference in the achievement based on the number of years homeschooled or the degree of state regulation or authority over homeschooling. <https://www.nheri.org/academic-achievement-and-demographic-traits-of-homeschool-students-a-nationwide-study-2010/>.

See also, <https://www.nheri.org/research-facts-on-homeschooling/>

Q: Does increased regulation improve safety from abuse?

A: No. A 2018 study showed no statistically significant relationship between the degree of state control of homeschooling and the number of abused homeschool students. <https://www.nheri.org/degree-of-homeschool-regulation-no-relationship-to-homeschool-child-abuse/>

Q: What has been shown to help reduce child fatalities?

A: A recent federal report highlighted states that successfully reduced their child fatality rates by reviewing their open case files for known risk factors of abuse, focusing their resources on those cases, and improving communications between agencies. Homeschooling was not mentioned in the report. https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/cb/cecanf_final_report.pdf

Note: A paper copy of this report was delivered to the Clerk of the Children's Committee by Attorney Peter Kamakawiwoole, of Home School Legal Defense Association.