

## STOP THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM PSYCHOLOGICALLY PROFILING OUR CHILDREN!

The U.S. House of Representatives is considering the Strengthening Research Through Education Act (SETRA – S 227) -- a dangerous bill that allows the federal government to research and collect data on our children's most sensitive psychological makeup. **This is nothing less than governmental child abuse.** 

## SETRA HAS ALREADY PASSED THE U.S. SENATE BUT MUST BE STOPPED IN THE HOUSE!

Section 132 of SETRA allows the expansion of federal education research into the area of "social and emotional learning" (SEL).<sup>1</sup> Here is why this expansion is so dangerous:

- Promoting **SEL**, instead of focusing on academics, will result in cultivating government-approved thoughts, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors in children. This already seems to be happening with Common Core and Competency Based Learning.<sup>2</sup> **The government has no constitutional, statutory, or moral right to collect data on any of these highly personal aspects of our children's lives.** Schools should instill academic knowledge, not explore matters rightly left to family and place of worship.
- SEL data is notoriously subjective and hard to measure, and may be easily "faked." Even prominent researchers in the field warn about the inappropriateness of using this data the way the government wants to use it for school and teacher "accountability."
- Section 157 of SETRA would allow **SEL** data to be fed into "cooperative statistics systems" that track data from early-childhood education through the adult years. **Subjective governmental analysis of children's thoughts, feelings, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors should NEVER be fed into a longitudinal system that will potentially follow them for the rest of their lives.**
- A recent U.S. House hearing uncovered an appalling lack of data security within the U.S. Department of Education. Our children's most personal data would be at high risk!

## MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, TAKE NOTICE: A VOTE FOR SETRA IS A VOTE FOR DANGEROUS PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILING OF OUR CHILDREN. WE WILL NOT FORGET!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.casel.org/social-and-emotional-learning

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.schoolcounselor.org/magazine/blogs/november-december-2014/change-behaviors-by-changing-mindsets

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2015/05/20/accountability-measures-for-traits-like-gritquestioned.html?qs=angela+duckworthh.

<sup>4</sup> http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/265209-oversight-chair-breach-of-education-department-would-dwarf-opm-hack.