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Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I think that everyone on this committee can agree that the old standards were horribly inadequate, and that DPI did an awful job rolling Common Core State Standards out in Wisconsin.

It is very concerning to me that there has been a lot of testimony that has been contradictory.

- 1) Standards will only be English Language Arts and Math only, but we heard testimony that now Science Standards and History Standards are on the horizon.
- 2) Are the standards Internationally Benchmarked?
- 3) Conflicting testimony that Math Standards are of high quality. We heard from the only two academic specialists on the validation committee and neither of them signed off on the final draft of the standards.

I believe that there is a conflict of interest between Fordham Foundation/Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation when it comes to the implementation of Common Core.

There are several concerns with student privacy. Changes to FERPA law are concerning, as well as what organizations can access data.

The NGA and Common Core State Standards and Achieve timeline is suspicious. I believe that there was additional work on the standards prior to what they report.

How much has it already cost and will in the future to implement?

I am concerned about the partnership between testing companies and the organization who created Common Core State Standards (Are we creating a government-sponsored monopoly?)

Bottom line is that this is just not going to fade into the background. People are legitimately concerned. Parents, teachers, education professionals of all stripes have come out against or with concerns about Common Core.