

PE1487/HH

Willie Paterson Email of 4 December 2013

PE01487 by Secular Society of Scotland and Mark Gordon

Sirs,

With regard to the above petition, I would like to strongly disagree with the proposals contained therein.

If the lack of awareness of an "Opt Out" from Religious Observance is the main driving force behind this petition, this can best be addressed by ensuring that all schools, in their published materials, make this known to parents and guardians.

This does not require the current system of having an "opt out" to be changed.

This is yet another attempt by a group of people to further diminish the role of the Churches in Scotland, of whatever denomination.

Chaplaincy in schools provides a useful means of education without, as some commentators would have us believe, being a sales pitch.

We should resist this petition.

Best regards,

Willie Paterson