

Our mission is to ensure that all children, regardless of their background, graduate from high school prepared for, and with access to, a college education.

February 17, 2016

Dear Chair Roblan and Members of the Senate Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of HB 4057 A. For the record, my name is Parasa Chanramy. I'm a Policy & Advocacy Manager with Stand for Children.

As a member of the Poverty Workgroup, I want to first express how grateful I am for all of the tremendous work that the staff at the Chief Education Office put into convening the HB 2968 Poverty Workgroup and capturing all of the workgroup's recommendations in the 2015 Poverty Report that helped shape this bill. I also want to thank Rep. Whisnant for his leadership and stakeholder engagement on this bill.

HB 4057 A passed out of the House Education Committee unanimously, and passed off of the House Floor with 55 "Yes" votes and 5 "Excused."

On behalf of Stand, we encourage you to support House Bill 4057 A because it will help our state and local districts learn more about:

- 1) how each district is spending their additional poverty weight dollars; and
- 2) what best practices, programs and services are being used to increase achievement for students from families in poverty.

Through these narrative reports, we'll be able to glean more district-level information about what's working, what the implementation costs are, and what additional needs still need to be met in order to ensure that students from families living in poverty are successful.

We believe that the information featured in these reports will be valuable in helping our state, local districts, parents, and community partners reflect and share more about where—and what—investments are making the most positive impact for kids from families in poverty.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Parasa Chanramy