Dear Lawmakers:

I have been employed by the school district for 12 years. In the last four years I have been kicked; bitten; scratched; injured; vomited on; and spit on. My work is causing constant physical, mental, emotional, and psychological stress to my everyday life.

As a Para-professional I take pride in working with children that I know, for most of them, will never reach a grade/developmental stage in their life to be on their own. I am trusted by their parents, my co-workers, and other students around me to care and provide the safest environment possible.

I willingly carry the burden, but honestly, it takes a lot of energy from me when I myself feel that I am constantly trying to "protect", instead of educate, those around me. I have precious, beautiful lives to teach and I do it with pride. However, there needs to be policy to protect everyone's rights to safety, at all times.

Thank you,

Para- Professional Baker School District