**House Education Committee** 

January 31, 2019

Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

I urge you to pass HB 2318 for the welfare of our educational system and the children that are affected by too early testing.

As a retired licensed professional counselor and educator, I have seen the effects of focusing on testing in early grades and believe it is a waste of time, energy and money. Teaching to the test and spending hours focusing on detailed information is not what elementary teachers have been prepared to do and is not what children need. I have worked as a counselor, teacher and social worker with young children and know that they do not benefit from testing and curricula that focus on teaching to the test.

It is not educators who created the testing of young children, rather it is the companies who sell the tests. Those companies should not be in charge of making decisions about schools policies. Please vote for the common sense House Bill 2318.

Thank you,

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