

To: The House Education Committee

Re: HB2318

Dear Members:

Please add my name to all of those who have written to you in favor of HB 2318. Though I do not have an occupational background in education, after listening to my many relatives and their children, I've come to realize that the endless testing, especially among the youngest of our learners, is detrimental of our children's education. There is an increasing impression that our children are no longer learning to become better and more productive citizens as they are attending school with the nearly sole purpose of taking and scoring high on a test. This kind of quantification and standardization is not only counterproductive but the never-ending taking of tests gradually erodes true learning as well as creativity.

To be sure, testing has its place but with a much less intrusive and pervasive presence as it has now. Especially with our earliest grade school children, we need to give them every chance to find the joy and wonder of learning which will hopefully carry them throughout their school years and indeed throughout their lives. Please, give these children a chance to learn such enjoyment before subjecting them to pressures, not to mention the ubiquity, of taking tests.

Many thanks for taking my voice and my concerns under consideration.

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