

Dear House Education Committee members,

I am taking time out of my work day to express my support for HB 2441, HB 2940, and HB 2023

All of these bills, if passed, will directly benefit the students I work with.

Re: HB 2441:

As a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, I have spent most of my career providing mental health services in schools from grades K-12. Whereas I do not have the expertise needed to provide academic counseling in a high school, I absolutely am skilled and capable of providing school-wide counseling services to grades K-8. Furthermore, Social Work education leaves Social Workers uniquely poised to serve our most vulnerable and marginalized students.

Re: HB 2940:

Our schools need as many mental health and social work supports as we can get, period. HB 2940 will move this goal forward.

Re: HB 2023:

It's time to decolonize our curricula. I have spent time talking to students of color learning what it's like to not see themselves reflected in their studies. As a white parent I want my elementary-aged children to have the opportunity to learn diverse voices and perspectives, both to broaden their humanity and to avoid participation in white supremacy via their education. Provision of ethnic studies is one step in these directions.

Kind Regards,

Caroline

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