



We are a non-profit education advocacy organization focused on ensuring all students receive a high quality, relevant education, especially those whose boundless potential is overlooked and under-tapped because of their skin color, zip code, first language, or disability.

March 16, 2019

Dear Chair Doherty, Vice Chairs Alonso Leon and Helt, and Members of the House Education Committee,

We support House Bill 2990 because family engagement is critical to a student's success. Family engagement -- when it is co-constructed, collaborative, and culturally responsive -- can strengthen partnerships between schools, families, and communities. These vital partnerships are essential when it comes to helping students grow, stay on track, and graduate from high school prepared for college, work, and life.

This bill will:

- Help elevate the importance of family engagement at the state level, especially with families and students who have been historically marginalized and underrepresented;
- Involve a broad and diverse set of education, community, and family stakeholders across the early learning through higher education continuum;
- Ensure that our state is continuing to expand family engagement practices that are equity-focused and culturally responsive.

We also believe that the goals of this bill would be complementary to the work happening through different initiatives like the English Learners Success Plan (HB 3499), the African American Student Success Plan (HB 2016), and the American Indian/Alaska Native Student Success Plan (SB 14).

We urge you to vote yes on House Bill 2990.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Parasa Chanramy". The signature is stylized with large, overlapping loops.

Parasa Chanramy  
Policy & Implementation Director