

From: daymitchell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Dayna Mitchell](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: April 11 Hearing - Supportive testimony for HB 2019
Date: Monday, April 15, 2019 8:42:05 AM

Dear Joint Committee on Student success,

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the Student Success Act. It is time for our state to finally start investing in our public education system again. We are ranked lowest in graduation rate and have the shortest school year. I'm a teacher and I work everyday to help students be successful. For the last 7 years I've been a Title One teacher in an elementary school who works with students who struggle to learn how to read. When I first started in my current school we were able to fund 1.5 licensed teachers and 15 hours of educational assistant time. This means we could serve students in small groups. We were able to meet the reading needs of 90 students (almost a third of our school population) that year.

Two years later our budget was cut. We only had 1 full time licensed teacher and 11 hours of educational assistant time. We were only able to meet the reading needs of about 70 students that year. The year before last we were cut again. We retained a full time licensed teacher and 10 educational assistant hours for the program. We could only meet the reading needs of about 60 students. This year we were cut more and are only meeting the needs of about 50 students.

For next year we are cut again and have been told that there will only be a .8 licensed teacher and 2 hours of educational assistant time. Each year there are fewer and fewer adults who can teach small groups for our disadvantaged students. Yet, the expectations for state testing and graduation rates has not changed. It is becoming almost untenable. How will students graduate high school if they don't get early intervention at a young age?

Please do the right thing and invest in our schools and pass the Student Success Act.

Sincerely,
Dayna Mitchell
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