

As a parent I am in full support of SB 543 to form children's special districts to support children's services that are seriously lacking in our communities.

Affordable child care is crucial to allow parents to be employed and in turn give back to our community. Studies have shown that if children have positive adult role models and strong relationships with at least one caring adult their future is much more secure and positive. Of the children living in poverty an astonishing 82% of those under 5 do not have access to affordable, quality child care!

Washington County Kids has established several partnerships with local resources. They are ready to run with offering these resources, they only need the opportunity and funding to do so.

Summer programs need to serve more kids-by fifth grade our students fall behind academically by as much as 3 years. Our shortened school year dramatically affects the academic success of our students and a continuing education program during the summer is proven to improve test scores and learning loss.

Passing SB543 will help our students not fall through the cracks when they are not in school.

I urge you to vote yes for our children and vote yes for our future!!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jaci Spross  
Concerned Parent