Submitter: Chris Berrie

On Behalf Of: Financial Beginnings

Committee: Senate Committee On Education

Measure: SB3

Financial literacy is critical to success in everyone's life. It's as critical as any other course taught in high school. I retired from banking after 45 years. For a number of years during my career, I taught classes for new tellers and bankers. During the last year of my career, I volunteered at Financial Beginnings, teaching personal finances at local schools, from elementary school through high school and beyond. Grade school kids learned about money while playing fun games. High School students learned fiscal responsibility and financial planning for college. I also taught a financial literacy class for adults at Habitat for Humanity. All who attended these various classes were extremely grateful for what they learned. The comments of high school students and adults indicated they felt they could immediately apply the knowledge gained to improve their finances over their lifetime. I highly support mandatory financial planning classes in high school.