

Submitter: Emily McIntire
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB595

Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Weber, Members of the Committee,

I will try to make this brief! I want to give my support for this bill and the other 2 bills you are hearing today in regards to TAG students and advanced courses. As we just heard in the Joint Ways and Means Sub on Ed- ODE has done a carve out for Talented and Gifted. Do you know how much it is? \$350,000. It was the SECOND lowest amount on the list of carve outs and expenses. Do you know the LOWEST??? Speech Language Pathologist at \$150,000. (That is a position to hire and recruit SLP's!!!!) Anyway- my point being- we are spending next to nothing in this state on our highest achievers. This is a travesty to me! The return on investment that we could have from these students- not to mention they could be your next brain surgeon or have the cure for cancer! We should be celebrating these children! And giving them their absolute best shot! There is no telling from what families these kids are coming from, they could be rural, in poverty, or an underserved population- but we do ourselves, our state, our country, and these students a huge disservice to not support them in their potential.

Do you know how some people are afraid to share good news with others because it can make others jealous? Let's not be that!! I certainly am not a TAG person, I work hard for every brain power that I've got- and sometimes it still doesn't work. I am always blown away by the brains of these amazing individuals and would love to spend time just listening to their stories. PLEASE- whether it be this bill or another- lets support these students!

Blessings! And thank you again for your time and service!
Emily McIntire