

Submitter: Matthew Killpack
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure: SB5506

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am writing to express my strong support for additional funding for summer school programs (SB 531) in the upcoming budget. As a concerned citizen and educator, I am deeply troubled by the negative impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on our education system, and I believe that summer school programs can play a critical role in helping our students recover from the disruptions and losses they have experienced.

As you know, the pandemic forced many schools to close and/or shift to remote education, resulting in a significant decline in learning and academic achievement across the board. Many students have fallen behind in their studies and are at risk of falling further behind if we don't take immediate action. Summer school programs can provide an important opportunity for these students to catch up, stay on track, and, perhaps, even get ahead.

Research has shown that summer school programs can be highly effective in improving student performance and closing the achievement gap. By offering additional instruction and support during the summer months, these programs can help students reinforce key skills, build knowledge, and gain confidence in their abilities. They can also provide students with important social and emotional support, which is particularly critical given the isolation and stress that many students have experienced during the pandemic.

I strongly urge you to support additional funding for summer school programs in the upcoming budget. By investing in these programs, we can help ensure that our students have the resources and support they need to succeed, despite the challenges of the past several years. I appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to seeing your leadership in supporting our education system.

Sincerely,
Matt Killpack
Humanities Instructor
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