Submitter: High School Student

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure: HB4137

Hello, I am an IB diploma candidate and high school student. I would like to write in support of this measure because not only would it benefit many of my peers, but the application it has to my personal situation would be enormously helpful. Currently at my school in order to graduate, every student needs a full P.E. credit. Due to mental health issues and struggles with the P.E. classroom environment, I only currently have half of a P.E. credit and was not able to complete the class (therefore I have only half of what I need to graduate). Not only do I still have the same struggles with the P.E. classroom environment, but I am now a full IB student and my schedule is so packed that I literally do not have room for anything else and do not have space to take a class to complete my P.E. credit with.

I am not a lazy or inactive person, I in fact spend a lot of time being active on my own time biking, hiking, and weight training, and living a healthy and active lifestyle is not something that I need a P.E. class in order to do. As an IB student, I also have 180 CAS hours on my plate, meaning that I am already meeting 60 hours of physical activity outside of school hours. With CAS, my personal activities, and a full IB schedule, there is no necessity and no space in my schedule to incorporate a P.E. class, and having to take a P.E. class at this point would only serve to make my busy schedule busier and slow me down. This measure would be very beneficial to me because it means I will be able to complete my graduation requirements without having to cram something else into my schedule.

Otherwise, I know other IB students who are in similar situations, not only with P.E. but with other graduation required classes. These requirements are already being met and exceeded through the IB program, and needing to find a way to fit them into a packed IB schedule is difficult or impossible for many people who just do not have space in their schedules at this point. This measure would serve to benefit me and these other students by lightening our stress load on our graduation requirements. Thank you for the consideration.