

Dear Chairperson Hartman and House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services,

My name is Karole Pickett, and I am an SLC teacher in the Lincoln County School District. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 3835, which would amend the definition of wrongful restraint and involuntary seclusion. This change will help protect educators and allow them to act in the best interest of student safety without fearing unjust child abuse allegations.

This is my 7th year teaching in an SLC. I have been punched, kicked, bitten and mental exhausted all of those years. I have had a black eye, along with a permanent scar from a skin breaking bite. We have to be able to protect ourselves, our staff as well as our other students when a student is so dis regulated they are causing harm. Restraint is a last resort in all cases but the threat of child abuse charges hinders our ability to provide safety for all students.

Please support Bill HB 3835 and support your teachers in what is a very tough and necessary job.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Karole Pickett  
Lincoln COunty School District.