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On Behalf Of: PPS  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

I work in public education, 'the great neutralizer' of economic disparity. I myself am a public school student graduate and because of this access, I was able to come out of poverty and into a stable income in one generation.

Today we already face a budget shortfall that will eliminate staff / services to the most vulnerable, the most needy in our society. Reading supports, special education accommodations and social emotional services will be eliminated if the state cannot fund education to its fullest.

Recently I have heard the phrase, 'unfounded mandates'. The very least the legislature should do is fund what they have already agreed needs to be done. That is the minimum, additional funding is necessary and not additional testing. How about more time to learn? We already over test kids. We have all aligned results with the minimal resources provided. The pandemic gave us some extra dollars, please continue those and more.

I am sure you have heard this idea, USE THE KICKER to fund education, even prt of it would be enough. You already have the money, ask the citizens, I am already saying yes!  
Thank you