

January 25, 2022

Re: Support of H 6667 - Trauma Informed Schools Act

Dear Chair McNamara and Honorable Members of the the House Education Committee,

I am writing to urge this committee to support H 6667, the Trauma Informed Schools Act. As we enter the third year of a global pandemic, it's undeniable that we've all been tested in many ways previously unimagined. Of course, children have experienced these stressors alongside us, no matter how much we may try to shelter them. Issues such as the pandemic, gun violence, poverty, illness, housing insecurity, racism, addiction, etc. affect our children in ways that can be detrimental to their future. School should be a safe space for all children, and provide a haven where they can grow and develop, no matter what they are dealing with outside of school. By implementing and supporting trauma-informed practices in our schools, we can ensure that each child has the best chance to succeed, regardless of their circumstances. Their successes are all of our successes, and the earlier we can provide help to a child who needs it, the better our state will be.

Therefore, I ask that you please pass H 6667 to the House floor for a vote with a recommendation for passage by the House.

Sincerely,

Candace Brown Casey

Cranston, RI 02910