

April 23, 2025

**Written Testimony in Support of H 5598**

Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

I'm a Barrington educator and resident writing in strong support of H 5598. As phones have become ever-present in students' lives, they've also started to erode the school day—leading to less attention in class and fewer real-life social interactions.

This bill can help restore the classroom as a space for focus, connection, and real learning.

I also encourage the committee to ensure the policy is comprehensive, with a bell-to-bell phone prohibition.

Let's protect the integrity of our classrooms and the well-being of our students.

Sincerely,

Kelsey Heaney

Barrington, RI