

Lisa Cataldi

From: Meaghan Almeida <malmeida@questschool.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:56 AM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: House Bill 6271.

Dear Representative Slater,

I am writing to you as both a teacher and a parent of children in our town's public schools to express my concerns regarding House Bill 6271. As taxpayers and active members of this community, we believe that all children should have the opportunity to participate in sports in their hometown.

As a Montessori Upper Elementary teacher, I recently discussed this issue with my 4th through 6th grade students—both athletes and non-athletes alike. Without hesitation, they recognized the value of sports in a child's life. They shared how sports support scholarship opportunities, promote physical and mental well-being, assist with admissions to competitive high schools, and help shape young people into more responsible and resilient individuals. Through sports, children learn essential life skills: teamwork, perseverance, accountability, and leadership.

In Montessori education, we consistently ask ourselves how we can best support the whole child—not only academically, but socially, emotionally, and physically. We believe that access to sports is a critical piece of that holistic development.

On behalf of my students, their families, and myself, I respectfully ask that you reconsider House Bill 6271. Please consider the impact it will have on our student athletes and their ability to grow and thrive within their own community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Meaghan Almeida
Elementary Guide
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Meaghan Almeida
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