



HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

RE: Disturbed Parent! - I Vehemently Oppose H7415

How is this possible?

For years, My wife and I have faced challenge after challenge trying to provide our children the VERY BEST education ... not a JUST GOOD ENOUGH education. The sacrifices we have made over the past 18 years, to give our children just that, are nothing any parent should have to endure to do so.

When I heard that the state had approved the De La Comunidad Bilingual School in Cranston/Providence/Pawtucket for 2027 and expanding The Greene School in 2026 which serves the ENTIRE STATE practically, I was ecstatic ... finally, the next generation wouldn't need to endure what we did.

Maybe things were finally changing.

Now, while not perfect, these schools offer an alternative for parents who want more. And rightfully so. They would have a choice. A real choice ... a chance ... to escape the "trap" and take control of their children's education. Give them a chance to succeed ... not just "get by."

Critics, including, to nobody's surprise, union representatives, argue that charter expansions, which often rely on "uncertified" or "emergency-certified staff", do not necessarily outperform traditional district schools in proficiency. What they're really concerned about is the potential dwindling enrollment and membership, disappearing coffers, and loss of control. That's what this "opposition" is all about. And let's be real ... their opposition cites the very same tests they argue *against* when their rank and file are held under the microscope. Truth be told, even if they outperform 1% more, that's 1% ... it's something worth fighting for.

And now I just found out that our government "leaders" have somehow devised an 11th hour attempt to not only stop any further expansion, but ACTUALLY REVERSE the previous approved expansion. Are you serious? I vehemently oppose this legislation. DO NOT LET IT PASS!!!! Parents have earned the right to decide where their children go to school. It should be a non-discussion. Why is this so hard to understand?

For some kids, it's the only way out of a really bad situation at home. For some, they are on the precipice of achievement and they just need a little bit more. To take that away is not only a disservice to them, but it undermines the very thing we're talking about ... preparing them the very best way we can. No one should be forced down a path because of a zip code.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael P. Hoard', with a large, stylized flourish.

Michael P. Hoard

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If I didn't just find out about this, I would be there tonight to vocalize this sentiment. But, alas, the situation is what it is and I'm not able to attend.

Give them a chance to thrive! Honestly, I shouldn't have to ask. Get it done!

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Mike Hoard
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