



**State of Rhode Island**  
**Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos**

March 9, 2026

Representative Joseph McNamara  
Chair, House Committee on Education  
82 Smith St, Room 135  
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Support for HB7730: An Act Relating To Education -- Student Cultural Exchange Program

Dear Representative McNamara:

I write to you in support of HB7730: An Act Relating To Education -- Student Cultural Exchange Program.

This bill will direct the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide a two-year pilot program that coordinates a national cultural exchange program for students of this state.

The benefits of student exchange programs are clear: students who participate in this program will be able to access new people, new communities, and new ways of thinking about the world. This pilot program will help students in grade 12 participate in a student exchange program. As students begin to transition into adult life, either by pursuing a college degree, practicing a trade, or by joining the workforce, experiencing a student exchange program will offer essential real-world experiences you can't get in a classroom.

For the reasons mentioned above, I urge you to favorably report this bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sabina Matos".

Sabina Matos

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor

CC: Representative Jennifer Stewart