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Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 3:24 PM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: H7526 Testimony

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John Thompson

Vice President

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Cranston, RI

March 16, 2026

Dear Members of the General Assembly,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed **H7526** regarding student and teacher classroom safety. This bill strikes an important balance between protecting the learning environment and ensuring students receive continued educational support when serious disruptions occur.

Two elements of this legislation are particularly impactful. First, the clear definition of “chronically disruptive student” and the requirement for documented interventions before removal helps ensure that teachers can maintain a focused learning environment while still prioritizing early support and accountability. This protects the educational opportunity of the entire class without resorting to arbitrary discipline.

Second, the requirement for a structured return-to-classroom plan developed by school leadership with input from the classroom teacher is critical. This approach ensures that students who are removed receive appropriate behavioral support and that their return is planned in a way that restores a safe and productive learning environment for everyone involved.

Overall, this legislation provides teachers with reasonable authority to address serious disruptions while maintaining transparency, due process, and student protections allowing for continued education within the classroom. I strongly support its passage.

Sincerely,

John Thompson

John D. Thompson

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