

Lisa Cataldi

From: Suzy Quinn <quinny1717@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2026 9:04 PM
To: House Education Committee
Subject: Please support H7526, Classroom Safety

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Dear Chair McNamara and Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Suzy Quinn and I am a Kindergarten teacher at GJ WEST Elementary, PROVIDENCE. I am writing to ask for your support of H7526, legislation that would give teachers the authority to remove students from classrooms when behavior creates safety risks or major disruptions.

Educators are responsible for maintaining safe and productive learning environments. When serious disruptions occur, teachers must be able to respond quickly in order to protect students and staff and ensure that learning can continue for the rest of the class. The bill also helps ensure that students who are removed from the classroom receive appropriate support and intervention before returning, so they can successfully re-engage in the learning environment.

In my work as an educator, I have seen situations where classroom disruptions or unsafe behavior made it difficult to continue instruction.

For example:

I had a student who did not want to get off his Chromebook, so he proceeded to slam the computer on the ground and then pace around the room kicking children in their backs, when they were sitting on the rug. These children started crying. At that point we had to remove everyone else from the classroom and call for Helping Hands. These types of disruption impede my other students from learning, it makes them fearful of the student that assaulted them and the whole class loses instructional time. Thankfully we have a wonderful support team and they were there very quickly to remove him. Unfortunately their hands are tied and he comes back to the classroom. This happens across our district more times than I care to count.

Providing educators with clear authority to address these situations will help ensure that classrooms remain safe and supportive places for all students to learn.

Thank you for considering this legislation.

Sincerely,
Suzy Quinn
Kindergarten Teacher
GJ West elementary,
PROVIDENCE

