

## Lisa Cataldi

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**From:** Sarah Brennan <sbriggs04@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 2, 2026 5:54 PM  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.  
**Subject:** I Support House Bill 7895

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Dear House Education Committee-

I am writing as a Rhode Island constituent to express my support for the intent and framework of House Bill 7895, the Safe School Technology Act of 2026, and to thank you for your continued work on issues impacting student well-being and educational quality in our state.

After reviewing the bill, I appreciate its focus on ensuring that educational technology used in Rhode Island schools is developmentally appropriate, evidence-based, and respectful of student privacy and safety. In particular, I support the bill's recognition that many digital products currently marketed to schools lack sufficient oversight and can expose students to excessive screen time, data collection, and design features that are misaligned with healthy learning environments.

I also value the bill's emphasis on:

- Protecting student privacy, including limits on data collection, use, and third-party sharing, as well as provisions requiring transparency and caregiver consent;
- Reducing harmful or addictive design features—such as targeted advertising, gamification, and generative AI—within instructional technology tools used in classrooms;
- Setting clear standards and accountability by requiring independent verification of safety and effectiveness and establishing a public process for reviewing and approving educational technology; and
- Empowering caregivers, including the ability to opt children out of school-issued devices or online tools without penalty.

Taken together, these provisions reflect a thoughtful attempt to place student health, learning outcomes, and family involvement at the center of decisions around classroom technology. I appreciate the legislature's efforts to strike a balance between innovation and appropriate safeguards, particularly as schools continue to navigate the long-term impacts of digital learning.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration of this important legislation. I appreciate your commitment to ensuring Rhode Island's education system remains both effective and protective of our students.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Brennan  
East Greenwich, Rhode Island