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From: Tara Hart <tarahartcgc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 11:28 PM
To: House Education Committee
Cc: Rep. Caldwell, Justine A.
Subject: Support For House Bill 7895

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Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 7895, the Safe Schools Technology Act.

As faculty in a postgraduate clinical education program and a current Doctor of Health Sciences student with a focus in teaching and learning, my professional training and academic work uniquely position me to evaluate the role of technology in educational settings. Based on this expertise, I believe this legislation represents an important and thoughtful step toward ensuring that educational technology is used in ways that are developmentally appropriate, evidence-informed, and supportive of student well-being.

The provisions outlined in this bill address several critical concerns. Enabling caregivers to monitor screen time promotes transparency and shared responsibility between schools and families. Allowing parents and caregivers to opt out of school-issued devices, take-home technology, and online standardized testing respects family preferences and acknowledges that one approach does not meet the needs of all students. Additionally, establishing more rigorous standards for the approval of digital curriculum is essential to ensure that educational tools are both effective and aligned with best practices in teaching and learning.

In my experience, thoughtful integration of technology requires not only access, but also oversight, flexibility, and accountability. This bill supports all three and reflects a balanced approach that prioritizes student health, family engagement, and educational quality.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation and for your commitment to supporting students, families, and educators across Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

Tara Hart