

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Anastassia Lindo, and I serve as the 7th grade science teacher at the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP).

For more than 37 years, UCAP has provided accelerated, personalized education to students who have struggled in traditional settings. Our students often require intensive academic and social-emotional support, and UCAP was built specifically to meet those needs.

This is my first year at UCAP. I have built an incredible rapport with my colleagues and students. I'm currently enrolled in a master program at URI. UCAP has been very supportive of my educational endeavors. I've seen UCAP provide students with not only a safe space to learn but a place where they can feel comfortable in their own skin. Collaborating effectively with my team members to ensure that we're maintaining a safe and equitable learning environment. Our school does the best with what it has. I'm grateful for calling this my place of work.

S-2208 / H-7271 would modernize UCAP's statutory framework and allow additional districts to refer students. This ensures that access to UCAP is based on student need.

Our students deserve continuity and stability. I urge you to support this legislation to protect a proven public education model that has served Rhode Island students for decades.

Sincerely,

Anastassia Lindo, 7th Grade science teacher
Providence