

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Curtis McLean, father of UCAP Student Zakai McLean , and I live in Providence RI.

I am writing to strongly support S-2208 / H-7271. UCAP has made a difference in my child's life.

We believe in UCAP and their mission of no child left behind. My son has found his educational confidence and belief that he can accomplish anything that he puts his mind and effort into. UCAP has been a community environment where I am encouraged to be involved and voice my opinions unlike other schools. It would be a disservice and travesty to look the environment and culture that UCAP provides.

Losing UCAP shouldn't be a thought and it would negatively affect the student, staff, and communities that it services. The future of UCAP should not be in the hands of politicians whose children don't attend the school and/or anyone who has absolutely no connection to UCAP personally. It will be a detrimental mistake to sever ties with UCAP and everything that it encompasses. Students need an environment where staff actually cares about the students, their dreams, and their future.

This legislation would allow UCAP to continue serving students based on need and would provide long-term stability for the program. For families like ours, that stability matters.

Please support S-2208 / H-7271 to protect students and ensure UCAP can continue its important work.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Sincerely,
Curtis McLean
Zakai McLean
Providence, RI**