

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jessica Corsentino, and I am a supporter of the Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP).

UCAP was founded in 1989, long before alternative education models were widely available in Rhode Island, and has served students who need accelerated learning and a smaller, structured environment for 37 years.

As an OST Program Manager I have had first hand experience in how paramount programs such as the one at UCAP are for the students and community. By supporting them financially, we enable students to learn and grow in an environment that fosters their individuality and supports academic needs in a safe space. These OST opportunities are integral for many families and help to keep students engaged far beyond the school day.

S-2208 / H-7271 strengthens UCAP's long-term sustainability by allowing additional districts to refer students and clarifying governance and admissions authority. This legislation reflects today's educational landscape and ensures that UCAP remains a stable, accountable public option for families across Rhode Island.

I respectfully urge your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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Jess Corsentino  
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